Daily Report

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Joint Settlement Plan To Be Proposed for Bosnia

LD0507171294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1448 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Geneva July 5 TASS—Foreign ministers of six countries gathered at the Russian representation under the U.N. Geneva office for the second meeting aimed to work out a joint position of Russia, the United States and the European Union on settling the Yugoslav crisis.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev meets with his counterparts from the United States, Britain, Germany, Greece and France.

According to the schedule previously coordinated by the foreign ministers, the meeting is to end today.

They also agreed that the final document be a working one. They do not intend to announce it before the belligerents examine it.

Kozyrev is to sum up on the results of the meeting at a press conference.

Russia, U.S., Europe Agree on Plan for Bosnia

LD0507203694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2003 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Konstantin Pribytkov]

[Text] Geneva July 5 TASS—Russia, the United States and European nations have approved a plan of joint measures to terminate the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A meeting held today at the Russian representation to the U.N. Geneva office produced to the Bosnian conflicting sides a peace ultimatum. The ministers called on the sides to stop the war and reach a compromise in territorial division on the basis of a map prepared by the contact group of experts.

"Realizing the responsibility for future of our states and the international community, we have chosen the only alternative: Joint actions, a common front against those who have grown insane because of the war," Russian Foreign Minister and meeting chairman Andrey Kozyrev told the final news conference. In his words, "this is the first experience of peace and compromise under compulsion".

Both encouragement and punishment measures have been planned. The encouragement measures for the Muslim-run Bosnian Government include the assistance in territorial settlement and restoration of the economy, and for Bosnian Serbs—suspension of sanctions against Yugoslavia conditioned on the Serb withdrawal to positions fixed at the contact group's map.

If the sides do not agree to this, they "will face additional pressure," said Kozyrev. Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council on the so-called safety zones will be strictly observed. A decision of the Security Council to cancel the embargo on arms delivery to Bosnia and Herzegovina "may become inevitable as the extreme measure" which has long been wanted by the Muslim leaders of the republic. If the "no" is said by the Muslims they will lose international support the arms delivery embargo will be toughened.

The warring sides shall observe and prolong the cease-fire agreement that was concluded for a month period on June 8 in Geneva.

The ministers expect the sides' answer within two weeks.

After discussing the general situation in the Yugoslav conflict zone, the Russian, U.S. and European foreign ministers called for mutual recognition of all states within the limits of former Yugoslavia and immediate resumption of negotiations between the Croat and local Serb authorities.

The next meeting of ministers on Bosnia will be held in late July.

NATO, Norway Adapt to Changed Strategic Situation

PM0507153194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 94 p 3

[Article by Marat Zubko: "NATO Behaves Like a Partner and Moves Headquarters Staff Further Away From Our Borders"]

[Text] Helsinki—There have also been changes in the Atlantic alliance military organization. The headquarters of the NATO Northern Command, which has been in the town of Kolsas, near Oslo in Norway, for a full 43 years, was officially closed 30 June.

It was there in Kolsas that the plans to repulse a possible Soviet invasion of the North European countries were devised and later modernized and the corresponding scenarios for strikes against the territory of the northwest USSR were outlined.

As is well known, in peacetime Norway has adhered to a policy of not having foreign forces and nuclear weapons on its territory. So in Kolsas they had the idea of holding practically permanent NATO exercises (with the participants alternating) in the country, in order to ensure that NATO countries' forces were present on Norwegian soil. They also got the Norwegian Government to agree to the construction of nine large heavy weapons dumps.

Now responsibility for the region has switched to the NATO Northwest Command, which is in Britain. The closure of the headquarters in Kolsas, the leading Norwegian paper AFTENPOSTEN writes, "marks the end of an era in the defense of Norway." It is the result of the end of the cold war, the collapse of the USSR and the

Warsaw Pact, and general changes in world politics manifested in particular in Russia's endorsement of the NATO "Partnership for Peace" program.

But top NATO officers are not leaving the land of fjords altogether. On the same day a small (so the papers say) allied forces in Northern Europe headquarters, under NATO command in Britain, was opened near Norway's oil capital, Stavanger, which is on the southwest coast.

AFTENPOSTEN and other Norwegian papers write in this connection that the Norwegian defense forces command and the NATO services are now in the same building, so it is now the "most modern headquarters in the entire Atlantic alliance." Some 560 Norwegian and NATO officers will work there. The innovation is explained by Britain's General Sir Harry Johnson, who was in charge of Kolsas:

"NATO intends to play in modern Europe the same part the national armed forces play in the individual countries. We are so closely bound economically and politically that we must cooperate closely in the military sphere as well...."

The new level of cooperation is emphasized by the appointment of Norway's Vice Admiral Byernar Kibsgord [name as transliterated]: He will take charge of the allied forces headquarters in Northern Europe and at the same time will continue to function as commander in chief of the defense forces in southern Norway.

The changing situation in Europe is also leading to purely internal military changes in Norway. The Norwegian Government published plans to reduce the size of the armed forces by the year 2000. The number of brigades, which constitute the foundation of the army, will be reduced from 13 to six and the number of personnel will be cut from 180,000 to 100,000.

All this means not that Norway does not see a potential threat from the East, but that it links it primarily to the instability that exists in Russia and some other CIS countries. At the same time, Norway points out that Russia's conventional armed forces are still the biggest in Europe and its nuclear arsenal is matched only by that of the United States.

"That is why small countries are seeking to maintain relations with their great neighbor on a multinational basis and not on a bilateral basis," says an analytical survey compiled by the Norwegian Defense Ministry.

Russian, UK Foreign Ministers Meet in Geneva

LD0507121794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1126 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Konstantin Pribytkov]

[Text] Geneva, 5 Jul (ITAR-TASS)—The foreign ministers of Russia and Great Britain stressed the importance of today's meeting of the foreign ministers of the Russian Federation, the United States, and the states of the European Union [on Bosnia-Herzegovina]. Kozyrev and Hurd held working talks at the Russian mission at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva.

Commenting on the general atmosphere of the negotiating process, Andrey Kozyrev said: "The pressure of the [conflicting] sides is increasing in all possible forms—from personal messages to public speeches. This pressure is being felt not only by us, but by our partners as well. We shall see how well we can withstand it." He said the Russian delegation will act on the instructions of President Boris Yeltsin.

"Today the United States, Russia, the European powers, and the UN have a chance for the first time to reach agreement on a settlement plan which is both sensible and practicable for the conflicting sides in Bosnia," Douglas Hurd told journalists. Having pointed out that he is not inclined "to be over optimistic," the British minister said that along with politicians there are "still too many military" on each side who think that they will be able to achieve better results on the battlefield. "I think both sides are wrong," D. Hurd said.

'No Breakthrough' in Russian-Estonian Talks in Geneva

LD0507135794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1229 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Konstantin Pribytkov]

[Text] Geneva, 5 Jul (ITAR-TASS)—"Unfortunately, there was no breakthrough" at the Russian-Estonian consultations at the level of special envoys. This is how Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin qualified the results of his two-hour meeting in Geneva today with Estonian Deputy Foreign Minister Raul Malk. This was our fourth meeting, he said to the ITAR-TASS correspondents, and stressed that the consultations are being held in order to facilitate the conclusion of the talks on the withdrawal of troops from Estonia.

Nevertheless, the Russian diplomat is not inclined to underestimate the importance of the current dialogue. "It seems to me that we are steadily moving toward an increasingly clearer understanding of what still needs to be done in order to bring this matter to a conclusion," he said. We have agreed to meet in a couple of weeks in Tallinn, probably joined by experts, in order to continue working on the documents". V. Churkin underlined that they were talking about the withdrawal of troops and about social guarantees for military pensioners, as well as about an agreement with regard to the former school for submarine crews in Paldiski.

When asked whether the completion of the troop withdrawal by 31 August is "unrealistic" in his opinion, the Russian deputy foreign minister replied: "I would rather not express any categorical opinions on this matter. We have officially announced that we do not consider ourselves to be bound by this date. But let us not lose our optimism; we are still in July, not in August, and it seems to me that various solutions are still possible."

Chernomyrdin Urges Military Cooperation With CIS

LD0607084794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0818 GMT 6 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Gennadiy Yezov and Leonid Bagdadyev]

[Text] Perm July 6 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin believes national defence enterprises should restore contacts and cooperate with their counterparts in former soviet republics, rather than try and arrange full military production in Russia.

"We cannot and should not limit ourselves by a certain territory. We have to work with those plants which are outside Russia, in Ukraine for example", he told TASS on Wednesday adding that despite a serious production slump in the defence industry, he had rejected the idea to organise in Perm region an aerospace-missile production complex.

However, the prime minister admitted that cooperation in military production "would depend on how our relations develop" with former soviet republics.

"We would not like to disrupt relations, they should develop normally. We have to cooperate and not isolate ourselves as long as it is possible", he stressed.

Moscow Forum Offers Options for CIS Confederation

PM0407102994 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 1 Jul 94 p 1

[Commentary by Dmitriy Orlov under "Alternative" rubric: "Centrists Favor Confederation"]

[Text] Representatives of extremely heterogeneous organizations of the centrist persuasion and leaders of major production and commercial structures have taken part in the "Toward a New Accord" forum convened in Moscow. One of its features was the broad representation of CIS states.

The spirit of the speeches of I. Smirnov, leader of the (international) Movement for Democratic Reforms; A. Volskiy, president of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs; N. Ryzhkov, chairman of the Moscow Intellectual Business Club; and others boiled down to the need to intensify the integration of CIS countries up to the level of confederative relations.

Each of the forum's founding organizations is proposing its own version of integration. The Party of Russian Unity and Accord statement, signed by S. Shakhray, set out a draft Confederative Agreement and included the creation of such structures as a Eurasian Investment Bank, joint armed forces and a unified military command, a General Political Council, a Security Council, a court, and a Model Legislation Institute. The charter of "Toward a New Accord" adopted by the Movement for Democratic Reforms does not contain anything fundamentally new compared to the existing CIS mechanisms (the Interparliamentary Assembly, Presidents' Council, and a number of other structures).

The forum did not adopt any specific decisions, confining itself to extremely general statements to all CIS participants about the need for the Commonwealth to develop into a confederation.

The motives guiding the founders of and participants in the "Toward a New Accord" forum are obvious and understandable. It is known that in the USSR 21 percent of gross domestic product was involved in interrepublic trade, as against a mere 14 percent in the EEC. Therefore the wish of the forum participants and the producers from CIS states represented by them to restore certain destroyed economic ties looks natural. Solving the problems of the nonindigenous, primarily Russian-speaking, population is also one of the main reasons for creating the "Toward a New Accord" forum. In Ryzhkov's opinion price coordination within the CIS is also one of the factors behind the organization of the forum, since CIS countries are losing a substantial proportion of export earnings because of dumping.

The reality of forming a confederation in the foreseeable future is, however, extremely problematic. Let us recall that Russian President Boris Yeltsin reacted with a certain dose of skepticism to Nursultan Nazarbayev's idea to form a Eurasian Union—primarily because of problems associated with solving specific problems regarding the functioning of the confederation's mechanisms and banking, customs, and currency regulation.

The "shady" side of the organization and activity of the "Toward a New Accord" forum is associated with the ongoing process to consolidate parts of the power structures and moderate opposition, conventionally speaking—center-right and center-left of the political spectrum.

Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia Sign Agreements

LD0507112994 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0700 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Georgia and Kyrgyzstan have signed a series of intergovernmental agreements with Armenia in the sphere of trade and economic relations.

[Correspondent Vladimir Nazaryan in Armenia] A routine working intergovernmental meeting took place in the Stepanavanskiy rayon of Armenia, which is adjacent to the frontier with Georgia. On both sides the delegations were headed by the heads of government. The outcome of last year's trade and economic relations is that Georgia owes Armenia almost $6.5 million. In the agreement signed in Stepanavan by Otar Patsatsia and Grant Bagratyan, this debt has been redrawn as a state credit from Armenia to the Georgian Government, which is to be cancelled before 1 October, 1997. The agreement also stresses the need to step up the protection

of the gas pipeline and railway communications leading to Armenia, and to ensure the safety of freight being supplied to our republic via the territory of Georgia.

A large package of documents, first and foremost an agreement on trade and economic cooperation, was signed in Yerevan today between the Governments of Armenia and Kyrgyzstan. The Kyrgyz delegation, headed by the republic's prime minister Apas Dzhumagulov, was received by Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan.

Caspian Sea Oil Development Seen as Political Matter

MK0607074094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 6 Jul 94 p 2

[Unattributed report: "The Development of the Caspian Sea Is a 'Political Matter'"]

[Text] Russia's largest oil company, LUKoil, has asked the Russian Federation Government to appoint it coordinator of the projects for the development of oil and gas fields in the Russian part of the Caspian Sea shelf, LUKoil President Vagit Alekperov said. In his words, Russian oilmen are "bewildered" by the fact that Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan have already started developing the shelf without consultations with Moscow. Unless decisive actions are taken, Russia "risks losing its positions on the Caspian Sea." At the same time, Mr. Alekperov stressed that the development of the Caspian Sea "is rather a political matter" in the solution of which "the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry should play first fiddle."

Trade Union Leaders Discuss Coordinated Action

PM0507151994 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 2

[Own information report: "Trade Union Centers Check Their Positions"]

[Text] A working consultative meeting of leaders of the trade union centers of Belorussia [Belarus], Moldavia [Moldova], Russia, and Ukraine, and the General Confederation of Trade Unions has been held in Kiev. The subject discussed was the strategy and tactics of the trade unions' actions to defend the interests of the workers and the development of the trade union movement.

The participants in the meeting noted that our states are going through similar difficulties. Chaotic and unsuccessful transformations lead to an exacerbation of the economic crisis.

In their opposition to the tyranny of the "unbridled market," the trade unions are increasingly frequently coming up against the desire of the authorities to restrict their activity and split their ranks.

The answer of the national trade union centers will be consolidation and conducting international actions of solidarity. The trade union leaders discussed problems of organizational, financial, and material backup for the activity of trade unions in the independent states.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 6 Jul

LD0607061694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0447 GMT 6 Jul 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow July 6 TASS—ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA carries an interview with Yuriy Arkhipov, head of the Foreign Migration Department of Russia's Federal Migration Service, who dwelt on illegal immigration into Russia.

Arkhipov believes that only two to 20 percent of illegal immigrants may seek the refugee status.

"We must first ensure a decent life for our own people and only then, upon elaborating hard and fast immigration-related legislative acts and upon defining both the rights of the 'guests', their duties, and responsibility for a breach of our Russian laws, determine how many and whom in particular we shall be able to play host to in our home," Arkhipov emphasized.

"It must be pointed out that foreigners who seek the refugee status and who have not gone through all the necessary procedures in Russia's Federal Immigration Service or its territorial agencies, are not refugees and their stay in Russia is deemed illegal", Arkhopov said.

In ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI, Sergey Stepashin, director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service (FCS), comments on the presidential anti-crime decree.

"The FCS has supported the presidential anti-crime decree exclusively in the interests of investigation, not for the sake of strengthening its own status," Stepashin emphasised.

His opinion is that "an effective fight against crime is hindered by the circusmtstance that many already investigaed cases "break up" in courts, as a result of which those guilty are penalised with two to three years imprisonment in a suspended sentence".

Stepashin referred to the presidential anti-crime decree as "a political act which is designed to stimulate the State Duma into working out laws for action to combat crime".

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI runs an interview with Crimean Vice-Premier Yevgeniy Saburov, who shares his ideas of economic prospects of the Crimea.

Saburov believes that the Crimean economy has never been independent. An overwhelming majority of enterprises were built as branches or subsidiaries of powerful all-union agencies. Free economic zones could become

locomotives of the Crimean economy. Such zones can be established up after accurate financial estimates are made.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries an interview with Mikhail Gorbachev who is to appear as witness at the General Varennikov trial on June [as received] 7 and 8.

"To me, this is a strange trial. To begin with, the defendant knows that he is not to be imprisoned. Therefore he behaves like an accuser. What is more strange is that the emergency committee characters are among main witnesses. They accepted the amnesty. Consequently, they pleaded guilty. And now these people, the main coup plotters, now act as major witnesses from that side at this trial", Gorbachev said.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA on U.S. President Bill Clinton's forthcoming visit to Riga:

The newspaper quotes Paul Goble, former chief of the U.S. State Department's Baltic section, and who is now senior staff member at the Carnegie International Peace Foundation, as saying that President Clinton, by his visit to Riga, will in a way mark out the end of the Second World War for the Baltic countries. After Russian troops are withdrawn from there, the importance of the Baltic countries for Americans will wane.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) analyses Russia's accession to NATO's Partnership-for-Peace programme:

"Our country, it seems, begins gradually to find its place among the world's other leading powers. After signing the accord in Brussels, Russia retains freedom of action and expects that within the framework of the partnership it will be able to a certain extent influence the policy and strategy of NATO".

TRUD on Russia's socio-economic problems.

The newspaper frontpages an article in which it points out an increasing material differentiation in society.

"In the sphere of crediting and insurance, the average pay in May amounted to more than a third of a million. Gas-industry workers in Krasnodar territory receive over one million roubles while workers in the light industry—only 100,000 roubles.

The critical situation in the light industry and a number of other branches of industry may pose a serious porblem to the government in the near future".

Freeh, Yerin Sign Protocol on Exchange of Information

LD0507105994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0954 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Kikilo]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—A protocol was signed in Moscow today which envisages the exchange of information to help investigate cases, as well as identify, apprehend, and prosecute people suspected of committing orgainzed and other crimes that give rise to concern in the United States and Russia. The protocol was signed by Russia's Interior Minister Viktor Yerin and FBI Director Louis Freeh. The FBI director is visiting Russia at the invitation of the interior minister.

After signing the protocol, which envisages exchanging signal officers, establishing reliable channels for exchange of information, and other steps, Viktor Yerin and Louis Freeh held a joint news conference.

More on Agreement on Intelligence Cooperation

LD0507123094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1125 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Kikilo]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—A protocol signed today in Moscow by Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin and FBI Director Louis Freeh envisages the opening of an FBI office under the auspices of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, and of the Ministry of Interior's office under the Russian Embassy in Washington. The document says that both the FBI and the Ministry of the Interior "intend to nominate liaison officers and other staff, if required, to render assistance in investigating cases, in establishing the identity, and in bringing court actions against those suspected of committing organized and other crimes."

The protocol says that the Moscow office will be staffed by FBI personnel, who will work "on criminal cases and other law enforcement issues of mutual concern, in interaction and in partnership with officials of Russian law enforcement bodies."

At a news conference following the signing of the protocol, Louis Freeh acknowledged that one FBI employee has already been working in Moscow for some six months "on a temporary basis." I am the other man, the FBI director said jokingly.

For his part, Viktor Yerin disclosed that "the Russian Government has decided to attach liaison officers" to Russian embassies in foreign countries, and expressed the hope that the same thing could be done with the Washington embassy. At the same time, he said that "the presence of liaison officers does not imply the establishment of an official mission."

On Monday, the question of opening an FBI mission in Moscow caused some confusion among representatives of the mass media working in the Russian capital. It was earlier reported that the opening of the mission—timed to coincide with the United States' national holiday of Independence Day on 4 July—would be the centerpiece of the official visit by Louis Freeh, who is in Moscow at the invitation of the Russian minister of internal affairs. However, a U.S. Embassy official told ITAR-TASS yesterday that specialized premises for the mission are not yet available in the embassy, therefore no official opening ceremony had been held.

Official Says FBI Agents May Work at U.S. Embassy

LD0507122294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] A senior Russian Foreign Ministry official reported to INTERFAX on Tuesday that there were no plans to open a special FBI office in Moscow.

He explained that there would be no FBI mission as such in Russia but on agreement with its authorities, there would be two or three FBI agents disguised as security officers on the U.S. Embassy staff. "Everyone will know where they came from and who they represent," the diplomat said.

He described this as taken for granted in relations between the countries, which opt for partnership and extensive cooperation, and cited as an example similar contacts between Russia's Counterintelligence Service and American CIA. "There are people listed as representatives of appropriate special services at the Russian Embassy in Washington and at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow," he explained.

Soskovets Briefs Freeh on Economic Situation

LD0507123494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Meeting with the FBI Director Louis Freeh in Moscow Tuesday, Russia's First Deputy Premier Oleg Soskovets stressed that the economic situation in Russia is dependent on the criminal situation.

"Russia's economy is heading for recovery with an upper class being formed, which quite naturally is affecting the nature of crime," Soskovets declared.

He noted that of all the former USSR republics today, Russia had the strongest economy and most stable political situation, and that that has been attracting criminals from neighboring newly independent states.

In his words, there is particular concern in Russia over the drugs trafficking across the Tajik-Afghan border, which is virtually open. He admitted that "the very nature of emergency steps taken in Russia shows that the president and government are concerned over crime."

Freeh told Soskovets that he would sign in Moscow on Tuesday a memorandum on cooperation between the law enforcement bodies of the U.S. and Russia. In his words, the issue of sharing eye-witness testimony and exchange of financial documents between the two countries is also being discussed.

He proposed that Russia would choose a concrete organization to be directly involved in coordinating activities between the law enforcement agencies of the two countries. In the U.S., he explained, this function rests with the international affairs office at the Justice Department.

Freeh said that after his visit to Moscow he was able to understand President Yeltsin's anti-crime legislation better since earlier he could judge it only from American press reports.

He spoke favorably of the package of Russian anti-crime bills he had been familiarized with at the talks in Moscow.

He stressed that during the visit attention was focussed not only on the fight against organized crime and nuclear nonproliferation but also on how to protect foreign businessmen.

He said that the U.S. would be prepared to train Russian law enforcement officers at the FBI Academy. He spoke highly of the Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin's professionalism and described him not only as a remarkable leader but also as a brilliant police officer.

He was supported in that by Soskovets, who called Yerin a highly professional lawyer.

Freeh Visit 'Outstanding Event'

LD0507140294 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Political observer Anatoliy Potapov takes a look at the talks the director of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mr. Louis Freeh, has had in Moscow.

He writes: The first ever visit to Moscow of the FBI chief is in itself an outstanding event. An agreement on setting up a representative office in Moscow and the interaction between the Russian and American law enforcement bodies is also quite extraordinary. The FBI director, Mr. Louis Freeh, has described the talks in Moscow as follows: The world has become too little and too dangerous, whereas crime has actually become transnational.

Russia and the United States are going only to gain if they pool their efforts in extraditing criminals, investigating the mechanisms of economic crime, checking the activities of international criminal gangs, and coordinate their efforts in tracing the drug trafficking routes. Other joint actions may also be to an advantage.

But to my mind, Anatoliy Potapov says, it's not the detailed agreements that have been reached, but rather the mere fact that these have become possible at all, that matters most of all.

In fact, for the first time ever, the FBI director has personally exchanged information with top officials of the Russian general procurator's office, the justice and interior ministries, the federal counterintelligence services. At the same time the Russian interior minister Viktor Yerin is being quoted as saying, we have no diverging views on any of the problems in our joint activities.

Just think, is it not another proof of [the] Russian strategic concept to develop a largescale cooperation with the west in action?

Yes, a solid foundation has really been laid in the economic, political and military fields. Now, joint efforts are being planned to crack down on crime.

Let us recall specific steps Russia has recently made to prove its strategic concept. These will include the signing of a partnership and cooperation accord with the European Union and the joining up with [the] NATO Partnership for Peace program, and President Yeltsin's forthcoming participation in the G-7 political summit on equal terms.

Now the opposition in Moscow are expressing their disapproval of what's happened, but I am certain, Anatoliy Potapov says, these only echo the former ideological confrontation and their inability to grasp the full significance of the economic changes that have swept the world.

I am sure the Western countries are now aware of the fact that their national security and economic gains will largely depend on the growth of the strong and democratic Russian nation. For its part, Russia is fully aware of the fact that its partnership with the West will facilitate its full and equal integration into the world community of nations.

So, despite its extraordinary character, the visit to Moscow by the FBI director is just another element in Russia's general concept which it is carrying on [as heard].

Freeh Visit Seen As 'Overt Interference'

PM0507140594 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 3

[Commentary by Yevgeniy Popov: "Freeh's Matreshka Dolls"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The official story on Louis Freeh's tour of nine European countries, including former Warsaw Pact states and three former USSR republics, is that it is for cooperation in the joint struggle against organized crime. It has been reported in the press that the FBI is already investigating 35 cases involving

the Russian mafia. The pseudoreforms in Russia and other republics of the former USSR have generated a tidal wave of crimes ranging from narcotics to contract killings. As BBC radio reported recently, "the former Soviet Union produces 25 times more hashish than the rest of the world." There are other records of that kind. In an interview on the "Itogi" program the FBI director described how our country's mafiosi are operating on the grand scale and have already forged links with their U.S., Italian, and Latin American counterparts.

It goes without saying that broad international cooperation in the fight against this evil deserves approval and universal support. But will that be the only task of the staffers of the FBI office in Moscow, whom Freeh did not name, merely noting that they "will engage in operational work"?

Donald Armond [surname as transliterated], a BBC commentator, believes that Louis Freeh has come to Moscow "as Yeltsin's adviser." It seems that the FBI director was actively performing that function in absentia, as it were, when still back in Washington. In any event, the U.S. visitor felt able to comment confidently on domestic policy questions and vigorously supported Yeltsin's edict on the fight against banditry and organized crime—that same widely discussed edict crudely violates the Constitution and Russia's existing legislation.

Doctor of Legal Sciences Professor Aleksey Kazannik, former Russian general prosecutor and now chairman of the People's Conscience Party, believes that this edict "violates the principle of the presumption of innocence, the dignity of the individual, and the independence of the courts in setting and altering sentences, elevates the data of operational investigation activity to the level of evidence, and introduces the institution of 'members of the family of a criminal involved in organized crime.'" Kazannik said that a frightening feature of the edict is the opportunity that it provides to "detain for 30 days even a respectable or law-abiding citizen merely on the grounds of a well-wisher's denunciation or a secret agent's signal." Yeltsin's unconstitutional edict has been sharply condemned by other eminent lawyers throughout the world, including in the United States. But here we have the FBI director most resolutely defending this edict as "a measure dictated by an extraordinary situation."

Generally speaking, such overt interference in the internal affairs of a state which considers itself sovereign (and especially interference by an intelligence agent whose very profession should, you would think, prompt him to remain in the shadows) is a highly surprising phenomenon. But at the same time it is also remarkable.

Once in the Russia the view was: "Diplomacy is the most secret business." Now the Russian "matreshka" has no secrets. At least, not for the FBI director, who is also prepared to serve as adviser to two presidents—of the United States and Russia—at the same time!

But Clinton does not want Russian advisers. An ITAR-TASS correspondent reports: "It is indicative that the U.S. side is not proposing that the Russian Federation Federal Counterintelligence Service open a mission in the United States."

Duma Official Favors Joint Exercise With U.S.

LD0507160794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0853 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—Speaking to an ITAR-TASS correspondent today Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the State Duma's Committee on Defense, said he favors the holding of a joint exercise by Russian and American peacekeeping forces, even if it has to be staged later than originally planned.

The joint maneuvers at the Totskoye training ground near Orenburg were supposed to be held from 6 to 14 July. However the State Duma, which regards the maneuvers as inexpedient, appealed to the Russian president to call them off. In response to this, the head of state advised the Defense Ministry to hold additional consultations with the Americans and to reconsider this issue "in the light of the points made by Russian lawmakers and public criticism of the idea."

Sergey Yushenkov disclosed that the chairman of the State Duma has received letters from Andrey Kozyrev and Pavel Grachev, as well as one from Colonel General Eduard Vorobyev, deputy commander of ground forces, who heads a Defense Ministry working party responsible for preparing and carrying out peace-keeping operations. In their letters they justify the need for the exercise and explain the reasons, including financial ones, why Russian subunits cannot travel to the United States for a similar exercise, as proposed by the Americans.

The letters have been discussed by the Committee on Defense, which yesterday decided to send representatives to Orenburg oblast in the second half of July. Sergey Yushenkov considers it essential to meet oblast leaders, local residents, and leaders of movements protesting against the exercise in order to brief them on the exercise plans. This is important because there has been so much rumor and conjecture about the maneuvers, including the suggestion that "a large number of tanks, planes, and guns" will be involved. Yushenkov said that only 250 U.S. officers and men, equipped only with automatic rifles, will be coming to Russia for the exercise. They will not be bringing tanks or armor and no live ammunition will be used, only blanks and imitation charges.

Sergey Yushenkov expressed confidence that in the light of the State Duma delegation's trip and the documents to be prepared by it, "the decision on whether or not to hold the joint peace-keeping exercise will be affirmative."

Army Denies Joint Exercises With U.S. at Totsk Range

LD0607082494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0742 GMT 6 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Moscow July 6 TASS—The main command of the Russian ground forces denied mass media reports that the first joint Russian-US military exercises had begun as scheduled at the Totsk Range near the city of Orenburg in southern Urals. However, it said the manoeuvres may still take place this year.

The peace-keeping exercises were scheduled for July 6-14, however the Russian State Duma, which opposed the idea, was backed by the president. He instructed the Defence Ministry to reconsider the issue "taking into account the position of Russian lawmakers and remarks of the public".

The press service of the ground forces told TASS on Wednesday that the exercises may still take place this year. The date and the venue are being agreed upon, it added.

U.S. Specialists Reveal No Missile Treaty Violations

LD0507191894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1839 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Alfred Artamonov]

[Text] Izhevsk July 5 TASS—Assistant to the U.S. Defence Secretary for Nuclear Arms Gerald Smith [name as received] told a briefing here today he is satisfied with the joint work of the U.S. military specialists and Votkinsk machine-builders to fulfill the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on Elimination of Medium-and Shorter-Range Missiles.

The U.S. delegation has revealed no violations of the treaty. Deputy Director of the Votkinsk Machine-Building plant Valeriy Ledvanov told ITAR-TASS that the production of such missiles has considerably dropped: Some 56 of them were made in 1990, 20—in 1993 and only nine this year.

The delegation has met administration heads of the Kizner workers' settlement and the town of Kambarkiy, where chemical arms stocks will be destroyed.

Clinton Welcomes Further Interaction With Russia

LD0507210494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2056 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Igor Borisenko, Vitaliy Chukseyev]

[Text] Washington July 5 TASS—The U.S. intends to continue interaction with Russia in order to help it go through a period of difficult transition the market economy and create open society, said the U.S. President Bill Clinton, addressing a large group of representatives of business circles and trade unions in the U.S. Ministry of Commerce on Tuesday.

Clinton reminded of the fact that a year ago during the previous G-7 summit in Tokyo Russia was in an extremely difficult economic situation. The president pointed out that the world community managed to give urgent aid to the process of Russian reforms.

Clinton said that 26 billion dollars out of the 43 billion which had been promised were distributed already. The president pointed out that the main achievement of the Russian Government was that it had maintained the course of reforms, especially during recent months. Reforms are beginning to bear fruit, although slowly, but without fail, Clinton said.

Speaking about his forthcoming meeting with President Yeltsin in Naples, the U.S. President pointed out that for the first time President Yeltsin would join the G-7 ranks during the discussion of political problems as a full-fledged member.

Clinton To Meet Yeltsin at Naples G-7 Meeting

LD0607062794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0608 GMT 6 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Igor Borisenko and Vitaliy Chukseyev]

[Text] Washington July 6 TASS—President Bill Clinton on Tuesday [5 July] night left Andrew's Air Base by air for Riga, the capital of Latvia, where he will have a meeting with the leaders of the three Baltic states on Wednesday.

During a seven-day tour, Mr Clinton will make a stop-over in Warsaw to address the Polish Sejm and meet with the Foreign Ministries of Central and Eastern European countries.

Participation in the Group-of-Seven summit in Naples on July 8-9 will be the the principal event of the U.S. President's European tour.

When in Naples, President Clinton will meet with his Russian counterpart Boris Yeltsin who will for the first time participate in a discussion in the political agenda of the G7 as a full partner.

Bonn and Berlin will be the final leg of President Clinton's European tour. He intends to make a programmatic speech at the Brandenburg Gate.

President Clinton is to return to Washington late on Tuesday night, July 12.

Shokhin Views Upcoming Naples Summit

LD0507154494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1338 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yekaterina Zhilyakova]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—"The upcoming G-7 summit in Naples will be the first G-7 meeting at which Russia will not ask for financial aid to its reforms," Russian Vice-Premier Aleksandr Shokhin told a meeting of the Federal Council of the Russian Unity and Accord Party here today.

In the words of Shokhin, the Russian Government aims at an efficient mechanism of Russian-Western interaction rather than credits.

The Naples summit is expected to discuss the Russian entrance to western markets and an equal access to financial resources of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), said the vice-premier. Shokhin is optimistic about the agreement on partnership and cooperation recently signed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Greece. In his opinion, this document "for the first time legalizes equality of Russia and the West".

The summit will also focus on safety of nuclear reactors, money laundering and the third world's debt.

Composition of G7 Summit Delegation Endorsed

LD0507124194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] As INTERFAX has learned from a well-placed source, the makeup of an official Russian delegation to the G-7 summit in Naples has been endorsed. Helping President Boris Yeltsin to negotiate with the leaders of the richest countries on July 9-10 [dates as received] will be the First Deputy Premier Oleg Soskovets, Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, Economics Minister Aleksandr Shokhin, the President's First Assistant Viktor Ilyushin, the Foreign Economic Ties Minister Oleg Davydov, and acting Finance Minister Sergey Dubinin.

G-7 Talks Seen as New Phase of Interaction With West

LD0507165594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1424 GMT 5 Jul 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: by correspondents Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov, and others]

[Text] Moscow attaches much importance to the visit of Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Naples later this week in order to meet the leaders of the leading industrial countries, Russian Foreign Ministry's Spokesman Grigoriy Karasin said at a briefing in Moscow today.

Karasin said that the summit in Naples would mark a completely new phase of the multilateral interaction between Russia and the West. He stressed that for the first time international political issues would be considered within the scope of a "political eight." The intensive dialogue on the strategic partnership conducted by Russia and its main partners in the world community since the beginning of this year would receive its logical confirmation, Karasin added.

He said that the eight countries would discuss the key problems of the modern world, including Bosnia, the Korean peninsula, the regional conflicts in Africa and Central America, the settlement in the Middle East, non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, human rights, struggle with terrorism, international security, the UN and the CSCE.

Russia must seek energetic actions of its partners concerning human rights on former Soviet territory, in particular in the Baltic states and to make the West more efficiently support the peacekeeping burden of Russia as a result of the conflict in several CIS countries, Karasin said.

Karasin said that in the economic sphere the Naples summit would focus on support of the reforms in Russia. Economic issues would be discussed under the 7+1 formula. "We expect our partners in Naples to understand and take into account the immense economic and social cost of the reforms implemented in Russia. In practice, this could manifest in raising the discriminatory measures which the West is applying to Russian goods and in recognition of Russia as a country with the economy of the period of transition by all G-7 countries," Karasin said.

The reports that Russia will raise the question of full-fledged membership in the G7 during the Naples summit are untrue, a high- ranking official close to Boris Yeltsin's quarters told Interfax on Tuesday.

He said that Yeltsin's participation in the official part of the Naples summit would allow him to take part in an equitable exchange of views on the most vital foreign-policy problems.

Russia's non-participation in the economic discussion has not discouraged Moscow. It is well aware that differences in the economic potentials of Russia and the G7 are too great, he told Interfax. However, Russia's involvement in the political discussion on a par with the other participants reflects the degree of importance which the industrialized states attach to new Russia, he said.

As Interfax has learned from a well-placed source, the makeup of an official Russian delegation to the G-7 summit in Naples has been endorsed. Helping President Boris Yeltsin to negotiate with the leaders of the richest countries on July 9-10 will be the First Deputy Premier Oleg Soskovets, Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, Economics Minister Aleksandr Shokhin, the President's

First Assistant Victor Ilyushin, the Foreign Economic Ties Minister Oleg Davydov, and acting Finance Minister Sergey Dubinin.

Deputy Says Kozyrev Fears PFP Treaty Won't Be Ratified

PM0507151194 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 1

[Commentary by Doctor of Juridical Sciences Viktor Vishnyakov, State Duma deputy: "Why Kozyrev Is Nervous. The Agreement With NATO Might Not Be Ratified by Deputies"]

[Text] In the past few days Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has said things that are far from being diplomatic: "Political bastards of a red-brown hue," "A formation of communists and patriots of the red-brown bloc," and so on. Appearing on television, A. Kozyrev even expressed the wish to "bash in the faces" of his opponents. In a word, Russia's number one diplomat has taken a can of red-brown paint out of a storeroom somewhere and started liberally daubing it all over people who do not agree with him.

Indeed, both in the press and in the Federal Assembly a lot of people have noted the coincidence between the date of Kozyrev's signing the agreement with NATO on Russia joining the "Partnership for Peace" program—22 June 1994—and the 53d anniversary of the attempt to implement the Hitlerite "Operation Barbarossa." But isn't there a coincidence?

Hitler's struggle against "bolshevism" was only a pretext for seizing a vital area and turning Russia into a colonial appendage to Germany. Following the defeat of fascism, a community of socialist countries emerged. It sharply reduced the possibility of the West colonizing the planet. The danger of the historical defeat of capitalism arose in the future. Which was the main reason for the cold war—and primarily for confrontation between the United States and the USSR.

The aim of the cold war has now been achieved. The "Partnership for Peace" program has become an instrument for ratifying a new world order. We have here a kind of geopolitical continuity of "Operation Barbarossa." The essence of the NATO undertaking is to prevent the revival of a great power.

But what is the foreign minister getting offended about? Surely he cannot fail to see that these historical parallels are no accident, but an expression of global world processes? The agreement dated 22 June (actually a treaty) signed by Kozyrev has a very binding nature for Russia, and will anchor our country in the trail of U.S. foreign policy for a long time. The document is to be submitted for ratification by the Federal Assembly. That is why Andrey Kozyrev is nervous.

Cooperation Proposals Handed to NATO Official

LD0507224094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1556 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mineyev]

[Excerpt] Brussels, 5 Jul—A Russian representative has today officially handed over the document on proposals for cooperation within the framework of the Partnership for Peace program to NATO Deputy Secretary General Sergio Balanzini at NATO headquarters in Brussels.

Thus, Russia has entered the final stage of preparation for its participation in this program, which was proposed by the NATO leaders in January. On the basis of the document, which contains the Russian Federation's proposals, a joint individual program of partnership between Russia and NATO will be drawn up.

As an ITAR-TASS correspondent learned from Russian diplomatic sources in Brussels, the document practically repeats the "main conditions" for Russia's participation in the partnership program presented here by Defense Minister Pavel Grachev to the NATO leadership on 25 May. [passage omitted]

Official Denies Russia Keeping E. Europe Out of NATO

LD0507124294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Eastern European countries are not admitted into NATO not because of Russian objections but because the NATO members do want them in, State Duma Defense Committee Chairman Sergey Yushenkov told Interfax.

Yushenkov, who had recently been to Eastern Europe at the head of a parliamentary delegation, said that unless they meet certain requirements Eastern European nations could not join NATO.

He thought that the East Europeans had understood their error and this was the reason why they were turning to Russia again and were prepared to develop various forms of cooperation. Yushenkov said that Russia was willing to cooperate, in particular to supply weapons to Eastern Europe.

Latvia Said Not Meeting Commitments on Troops

LD0507124094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Sergey Zotov, head of the Russian negotiating team in talks with Latvia, expressed concern over failure of the Latvians to honor commitments under the Russian-Latvian troop withdrawal agreement signed in Moscow on April 30.

He told interfax that Latvia had not paid Russia for the apartments left by the Russian servicemen who lived in

Latvia; it also failed to contribute to a joint medical institution which was to be set up in the Russian military hospital in Riga.

Zotov recalled that the agreements signed during the meeting of the presidents of the two countries on the withdrawal of troops before August 31 were effective from the moment of signing while the agreement the two governments had signed on compensation for the living quarters handed over to Latvia had come into force.

Zotov expressed the hope that U.S. president Bill Clinton, who had played a positive role in helping the Latvian leadership to work out a reasonable approach to resolving issues with Russia, would use his influence when he visited Latvia on July 6 to have that country meet all its commitments.

Latvia, Estonia Condemned Over Citizenship Policy

LD0507200394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1838 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] A high-ranking Russian official told the State Duma's Foreign Affairs Committee today that the policy pursued by Latvia and Estonia of arbitrarily denying citizenship to more than a million people was unacceptable.

Abdulakh Mikitayev, who chairs the president's commission on citizenship, added that according to international norms what was happening to "our compatriots" in Latvia and Estonia could be described as "genocide". He said that the two Baltic states should grant citizenship to every resident who wanted it. He added that 80 percent of these countries' Russian-speaking population, who had not received citizenship, "did not intend to move anywhere."

According to Russian Foreign Ministry figures, as of July 1, 1994 Russian embassies in the Baltics had granted Russian citizenship to 25,000 Latvian residents, 15,000 Lithuanian residents and 42,000 Estonian residents.

Foreign Ministry Opposes Yugoslavia Embargo Violations

LD0507162994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1424 GMT 5 Jul 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by Correspondents Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[Text] Russia would regard as unacceptable any activities violating the UN Security Council-imposed arms embargo against the former Yugoslavia, Russian Foreign Ministry's spokesman Grigoriy Karasin said at a briefing in Moscow Tuesday.

He argued that arms supply would kindle the fires of the conflict, encourage the war supporters in every warring party and destroy the fragile ceasefire agreement. He expressed the view that the way to resolve the conflict in the former Yugoslavia was through escalation of peace rather than through escalation of war and sending weapons there.

Karasin said that the second Geneva meeting of the Russian, U.S., British, French, German, Greek and Belgian foreign ministries and UN officials that opened Tuesday and is scheduled to last one day was held against the dismal background of continuing hostilities. He emphasized that the situation was fraught with the danger of a full-scale war in the center of Europe.

Karasin Urges Strict Application of Bosnia Arms Embargo

LD0507141094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1331 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Kozlov and Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—Russia sees the way to a settlement in former Yugoslavia to be not through an escalation of the war and saturating the states which have emerged on its territory with weapons, but through an escalation of peace. Grigoriy Karasin, director of the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry Information and Press Department, announced this at a briefing today, in connection with foreign mass media reports of violations of the UN embargo on weapons supplies to the states of the former Yugoslavia.

Such actions, he said, not only undermine the sanctions regime imposed by the UN Security Council, but also inflict irreparable damage on the effectiveness of the efforts the international community is undertaking to bring about an all-embracing peaceful settlement in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Russia believes that against the background of today's ministerial meeting on Bosnia in Geneva, all actions which violate the military embargo are especially unacceptable. "Now, on the contrary, it is important to step up international monitoring to ensure the embargo is strictly and inviolably observed," G. Karasin stressed.

Grachev Receives French Defense Ministry Delegation

LD0407093494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0901 GMT 4 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow July 4 TASS—Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev stated on Monday that he places a lot of importance on Russian-French military contacts. One of the goals of the French Defence Ministry delegation which is now in Moscow is to allow the two countries to decide more specifically how they intend to cooperate in the military-technological sphere.

Speaking at a meeting with the delegation, headed by deputy minister Henri Conze, Grachev said that relations between Russian and France were raised to new heights after the signing of agreements on defence and military-technological cooperation this February. The Russian minister pointed out that the two countries were exchanging various delegations, military personnel from each country were undergoing training in the other, consultations were being held on defence questions, and problems of conversion were being tackled jointly.

Defense Cooperation Memorandum Signed

LD0507142594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1254 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—Viktor Glukhikh, chairman of Russia's State Committee for the Defense Industry (Goskomoboronprom), and Henri Conze, director general of the armaments division of the French Ministry of Defense, signed a memorandum today on cooperation in the defense industry. The ITAR-TASS correspondent learned from the Goskomoboronprom press service that the document envisages the joint development and production of weapons and military equipment, and also sales of these on the world market. The sides undertake to exchange scientific and technical information and information on patents, models, and technologies, and to give their specialists the opportunity of visiting production enterprises and scientific research organizations.

Russian, French Ministers on Accord

LD0507222594 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Video report by correspondent A. Peslyak, including recordings of remarks by French Deputy Defense Minister Henri Conze—in French with superimposed Russian translation—and Russian Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin—from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpts] The defense ministries of Russia and France have signed a memorandum on cooperation in scientific research and in designing, producing, and recycling armaments and military equipment. Now we can be proud that the first military-technological agreement with a western superpower has been concluded, that this provides work places and support for the defense industry on the path of high and mutually complementary technologies, including ones of a binary nature and that, jointly with its partner, Russia is once more seeking to regain the market it started to lose. [passage omitted]

[Conze] We have close military-industrial ties with Germany, Great Britain, and Italy. I think this agreement would allow us to develop the necessary cooperation with the defense industry without competing with neighbors in west Europe.

[Preslyak] Andrey Kokoshin cited aviation construction and rocket equipment as specific spheres for cooperation and specified that Henri Conze had meetings at the Russian State Committee for Defense Industry and the Russian Ministry for Atomic Energy.

[Kokoshin] Our Ministry for Atomic Energy has numerous technologies which are of great interest, without their being technologies directly applicable to nuclear weapons.

More on French Military Team's Visit

PM0507143394 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 1

[Report by Sergey Sidorov: "Russia and France—Cooperation in Arms Production Beginning"]

[Text] Russia and France can achieve great results in the military-technical sphere. That was stated by Army General Pavel Grachev, the Russian Federation defense minister, during a meeting with French Deputy Defense Minister Henri Conze, who is paying a short working visit to Moscow.

Arriving for the meeting with the Russian minister in civilian dress, Henri Conze was introduced as an army general and engineer. The nature of his visit is indicated by the composition of the French delegation, which includes representatives of the French Defense Ministry's directorates of aircraft construction and rocketry and space technology, the inspector general for armaments, and so forth. First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin and Colonel General Anatoliy Sitnov, the Russian Federation Armed Forces' chief of armaments, took part in the talks on the Russian side.

Henri Conze and Andrey Kokoshin will sign a memorandum on the results of the present working meetings. This will concretize the areas of cooperation which Army Gen Pavel Grachev and his French counterpart, Francois Leotard, identified in the agreement of 4 February.

During the visit Henri Conze will go to St. Petersburg as well.

British Navy Commander Visits Severomorsk

LD0507183594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1750 GMT 5 Jul 94

[by ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Novikov]

[Text] Murmansk July 5 TASS—Visiting British Naval Admiral Hugo White, commander-in-chief of the British Navy, visited the town of Severomorsk on Tuesday.

In Severomorsk, the British admiral met with the commander of the Russian Northern Fleet, Admiral Oleg Yerofeyev, went aboard a nuclear submarine, the "Admiral Nakhimov" nuclear cruiser and visited a museum of the navy.

The British admiral pointed out that Russian and British sailors were connected by relations of allies. Admiral White invited one of the ships of the Northern Fleet to take part in NATO's naval exercises scheduled in September.

On the same day Admiral White left Severomorsk for St. Petersburg.

Baykonur Accord May Be Signed in July

LD0507141394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Russia and Kazakhstan may sign a treaty on the renting of the Baykonur space launching station as early as at the end of July, a senior official of the Russian Space Agency told Interfax.

He said that experts of the two countries would finalize the treaty in Almaty where the Russian delegation would most probably arrive on Wednesday. The official noted that the agreement signed by Boris Yeltsin and Nursultan Nazarbayev in Moscow last March could be ratified by the two parliaments in mid-July.

He said that the State Duma's Industry Committee had approved the agreement and would send a statement for its ratification to Duma members.

Under the agreement Russia will rent Baikonur and the neighboring town of Leninsk for 20 years at $115 million a year with an option of extending the lease for 10 more years.

Experiment in Sale of Foreign Countries' Debts Begins

PM0507081194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 94 p 2

[Report by Aleksey Portanskiy: "Russia To Begin Sale of Third-Country Debts"]

[Text] In the near future Russia is to begin selling third-country debts. It is planned to begin this huge operation with India's debts.

The combined debt of third world countries to the former USSR is almost twice our debt to developed countries and, according to various assessments, stands at something in the order of $150 billion. The lion's share of this debt arose as a result of Moscow's delivery of arms and other "fraternal" aid on extremely preferential terms to various revolutionary democratic regimes in Asia, Africa, and Latin America from the sixties through the eighties.

Our debtors are hardly likely to be able to return the greater part of the aforementioned sum in the foreseeable future in view of their obvious insolvency. Incidentally, many of them did not expect at all that the day of reckoning would ever come, since they could in no way imagine the fundamental changing of the guard and the shift in foreign policy in Moscow.

There is no need to explain how acute is Russia's need for additional financial and commodity resources today. However, by no means all debts can be auctioned off. In order to begin trading in these debts, it is essential at the very least to clarify the debt situation with each debtor country. And if the latter does not recognize the debt presented to its account, or if it proudly states that it will certainly pay (although no one can imagine when), the question is left hanging indefinitely.

Calculations of debts between Moscow and Delhi also had their problems; for example, the determination of the exchange rate of the Indian rupee for repaying the debt. However, the character of relations between the two countries—perfectly civilized and traditionally friendly—enables them to resolve the debt problem.

The sale of India's debts, which as of the current year stand at around $1 billion, will begin as an experiment, Oleg Davydov, Russian Federation minster of foreign economic relations, told journalists. A proposal for the sale of 50 percent of India's debts has been submitted to the government jointly by the Ministry of Finances and the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations.

India's debts will be sold exclusively on the Russian currency exchange. It is hard to say at the moment at what price they will be quoted, but, in the words of the minister, there are hopes of receiving not less than 80 percent of the actual cross-rate value.

Under the intergovernmental agreement between Russia and India, whoever buys the debts will have to purchase goods from the latter country and then sell them independently. The advantage to the state of the plan for selling debts is obvious—the money generated will immediately go into the budget.

The experimental character of the operations, O. Davydov explained, lies in the fact that it is hard to predict at the moment what reaction it will provoke on the exchange. Illicit deals and criminal activity, and other uncivilized phenomena cannot be ruled out when the sale of debts begins.

Russia Becomes Full Member of Eutelsat Organization

LD0507152594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0516 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Krasnoshchekov]

[Text] Paris, 5 Jul—The Russian Federation has become the 41st full member of the European satellite communications organization "Eutelsat". The agreement on this was signed yesterday at the Paris headquarters of

this organization by "Eutelsat" Director General Jean Grenier and Russian Communications Minister Vladimir Bulgak.

The Russian minister noted at a news conference that the agreement is "yet another step by Russia on the path of integration into the European home." This agreement, he stressed, is an example of the practical implementation of the accords on cooperation between Russia and the European Union [EU] which were signed during the recent visit by Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Greece, where he took part in the work of the European Council session on the level of heads of state and governments of the EU member countries.

At the same time, V. Bulgak stressed that cooperation between "Eutelsat" and Russia is "a road with two-way traffic." Russia is already using the services of this organization, but for its part it can propose using its space technologies to develop and build up "Eutelsat" satellite systems.

One should not overassess this event, nor should one underestimate it, Vladimir Bulgak said in an exclusive interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent. This means Russia's entry into the European Union in the sphere of telecommunications, which is one of the bases of statehood. Assessing the political significance of signing the document, he noted that there are now grounds for asserting that communication among peoples will be better coordinated and more open. "We have shown that the doors of Russia are open to European countries, and now we are acting as partners with equal rights and without any kind of discriminatory or "special" conditions," V. Bulgak stressed.

We are not joining "Eutelsat" with our eyes closed; more than 30 Russian technical devices are already operating in this organization's system, the Russian minister noted. The charges for "Eutelsat's" services are some of the highest in the world, he acknowledged, but it is probably simply impossible to work on the scale of the whole of Europe, to provide for an exchange of the abundance of banking and statistical information without "Eutelsat" today, since its technical devices have been created a priori for these purposes.

From a technical viewpoint, for Russia cooperation with "Eutelsat" does not present any problems, V. Bulgak pointed out. As far as the bilateral nature of these relations is concerned, in spite of the principle of competition for work by any international organization, including "Eutelsat," we are hoping that when our partners get to know the Russian telecommunications market well, familiarize themselves in greater detail with the possibilities of Russia's space industry, "we will be able to talk on a different level, both with the directorate and with all 40 members of this organization." Russia can practically double the technical capacity of "Eutelsat." It can render assistance in putting new generation satellites into orbit, he stressed.

The tasks of the "Eutelsat" organization set up in 1985 include providing satellite telephone communications, broadcasting the programs of the European Union's radio networks, and other radio and television programs, and the collection and conveying of business information. At present, seven "Eutelsat" satellites are in near-Earth orbit. Yet another one will be launched in November this year, and the launching of a ninth satellite is planned for the middle of 1996.

Review of Embargo on Iraqi Oil Sales Considered

LD0507150994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1355 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Yuriy Kozlov and Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—Russia is prepared to take the initiative of reviewing the U.N. Security Council embargo on the sale of oil by Iraq after the expiry of its "specified time limit", Boris Kolokolov, Russian deputy foreign minister said at a briefing for Russian and foreign journalists today. According to Kolokolov, it seems, they understand in Baghdad that the lifting of the sanctions can be made through unconditionally fulfilling all conditions laid down by the world community.

A majority of the "disarmament" clauses of the resolution have already been met by Iraq. In essence, he said, there exists sufficient clarty as far as nuclear and chemical, as well as rocket weaponary are concerned. Only specific problems remain, which concern the biological weapons. In particular, there are no specific documents which could show the direction of new developments and expose the channels of help supplies to Iraq from abroad.

Besides this, Kolokolov continued, there exist certain differences in the timetable of monitoring, that is the system of measures of interntional control and observation on further activities by the Iraqi side. Thus, Russia considers, that such a minitoring can be established in July and must continue for six months. France also adheres to a similar position, where as the U.S. insists on extending this period.

However, the Russian diplomat added that a compromise version, proposed by rolf Ekeus, executive chairman of the U.N. commission to destroy Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and rocket technology, deserves attention. According to the U.N. official's version, the timetable of monitoring should be flexible and should be liable to change towrds a decrease or increase, depending on the results of the control.

IAEA Chief Meets Mikhaylov, Views DPRK Issue

LD2906163094 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1200 GMT 29 Jun 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Hans Blix, general director of the International Atomic Energy Authority [IAEA], continues his visit to Moscow. Today he met Viktor Mikhaylov, Russian minister for atomic energy. Problems of ensuring the safety of weapons-grade uranium and plutonium released during the dismantling of nuclear warheads were discussed. Other topics under discussion included the safety of storing radioactive elements and joint projects to ensure safety at atomic power stations.

In a conversation with journalists Hans Blix highly appraised the prospects for the best Russian atomic technological processes in the world markets, first and foremost in the area of state-of-the-art reactor technology, and the production of isotopes and of enriched uranium.

The IAEA general director also gave new details concerning the North Korean nuclear problem. The agency extended to the DPRK technical assistance in the area of development of atomic power engineering for peaceful purposes only, checking the activities which have been officially notified and the relevant nuclear facilities and materials.

The IAEA began to suspect Pyongyang of concealing certain data and of supplying incomplete and inaccurate data. In an attempt to have the situation clarified, the IAEA demanded that two new facilities should be made available for inspection. The conflict began when Pyongyang refused.

So far it is difficult, on the basis of the current data, to speculate how close North Korea is to making nuclear weapons.

Turkish President Views Moscow, Baku, Bosnia

PM0607092194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jul 94 p 3

[Interview with Turkish President Demirel by Maksim Yusin, presumably in Ankara; date not given: "Suleyman Demirel: Turkey Is Not Seeking to Create Zones of Influence in Central Asia and the Transcaucasus"]

[Text] Ankara, Moscow—[Yusin] Does Turkey regard Russia as its geopolitical adversary in the Transcaucasus and Central Asia? Is there a struggle in progress between Ankara and Moscow for spheres of influence in the Muslim republics of the former USSR?

[Demirel] Since the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Turkey has sought to develop friendly ties with all the new states while respecting their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We attach great significance to relations with the countries of Central Asia with whom we are linked by history, culture, and language. That is why we consider it our moral duty to assist in the strengthening of their independence, the elimination of economic difficulties, and the movement toward democracy and the market economy. I believe that Turkey's policy is helping to preserve peace and stability in this geopolitically very important region.

In developing cooperation with the states of Central Asia and the Transcaucasus we are not seeking to create any zones of influence, nor are we competing or entering into conflict with other countries.

[Yusin] How far might Turkish support for Azerbaijan go if the situation around Nagorno-Karabakh becomes acute? Do you envisage an option in which Turkish troops might act on Azerbaijan's side?

[Demirel] From the very start of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Turkey has tried to find a peaceful solution. In this connection we support the efforts of the CSCE's Minsk group.

[Yusin] Have relations between Turkey and Azerbaijan changed since President Elchibey was ousted and replaced by Geydar Aliyev, who is oriented more toward Moscow?

[Demirel] Since Azerbaijan gained its independence three years ago, our relations have been developing rapidly and this is not connected with the personalities of the leaders. Fraternal ties between the peoples of Turkey and Azerbaijan cannot be affected by a change of leadership in either country.

As for Mr Heydar Aliyev's foreign policy, we view it as balanced.

[Yusin] Does Turkey support the initiative of the EU, Russia, and the United States on the territorial division of Bosnia according to the principle: 51 percent to the Muslims and Croats, 49 percent to the Serbs?

[Demirel] We support the kind of solution which makes it possible to preserve the territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the peaceful coexistence of the three peoples who form it. The agreement on the creation of a federation concluded between the Bosnian Muslims and Croats is a step in the right direction.

We hope that the Serbs will be able to reach an agreement with this federation. As for the final settlement, Turkey believes that the territory which has been inhabited by Muslims and Croats from the very beginning should be returned to them.

[Yusin] Is Turkey ready unilaterally to grant military aid to the Bosnian Government if the international community's efforts do not lead to the restoration of peace in Bosnia and the Serbs resume the offensive against the "safe zones"?

[Demirel] We consider it necessary to use all peaceful means to settle the conflict. If those efforts are not crowned with success and if the Serbs begin a new offensive against the "safe zones," the United Nations and NATO must immediately take effective measures to

implement the corresponding UN Security Council resolutions and NATO Council decisions.

[Yusin] How do you assess Russia's role in the Balkan crisis?

[Demirel] Russia is playing a crucial role in the settlement of this crisis. The historical and cultural ties between the Russians and the Serbs give Russia an opportunity to exert the necessary pressure on the Serb side to encourage it to join in with the negotiation process which was initiated by the Bosnian Muslims and Croats.

Moscow Presses Yemen To Maintain Cease-Fire

LD0407165894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1400 GMT 4 Jul 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by correspondents Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov and others]

[Text] The ceasefire agreement the Yemeni warring parties signed last Thursday with mediation of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has been broken but the two sides are assuring Moscow that the document is still in force and they will do their best to revive it, Viktor Posuvalyuk, director of the Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department who was directly engaged in ceasefire talks, told Interfax Monday.

He said that the two sides accused one another. He explained that Russia had never entertained any illusions about the potential of implementing the agreement which had, however, become a major tool in the UN Security Council's efforts to have the hostilities cease and a political dialogue in Yemen started.

Posuvalyuk said that the Russian Foreign Ministry was continuing contacts with the two warring parties and taking steps to keep the spirit of the Moscow agreement alive. He emphasized that contacts with those whom he called players in the Yemeni field and the UN leadership were maintained in Moscow, Sanaa and New York.

Posuvalyuk recalled that the Moscow ceasefire agreement was the seventh one in the conflict. He said that although observers might be effective but only a political will on both sides was capable of putting an end to the bloodshed. This was the reason, he explained, why efforts are concentrated on convincing the leaders of the two sides that the hostilities had to stop.

He explained that it was up to the Yemenis to decide whether they wanted to have a federation or a confederation or any other arrangement in their own country. He said that it was essential at this stage to stop the bloodshed, the pointless war between Yemeni brothers and to have them sit at a negotiating table.

Willing To Continue Mediation

LD0507151394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1405 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Yuriy Kozlov and Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—Russia is willing to continue its mediatory role in resolving the Yemen problem and in settling the conflict through negotiations. This was announced today by Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Kolokolov at a briefing for Russian and foreign correspondents. According to him, UN Security Council resolutions 924 and 931 already provide a reasonably solid basis for building a constructive dialogue between the warring sides.

The Russian diplomat concedes that the sides have violated a cease-fire agreement signed a few days ago in Moscow, and which Arab countries and other states are now actively trying to salvage. Unfortunately, he said, it is practically impossible to determine who was the first to violate the Moscow agreement, because the information coming from the combat zone is rather contradictory. Whatever the cause, said B. Kolokolov, armed clashes have not stopped, they are simply on a smaller scale now.

Kolokolov believes that the only solution to the present situation is in continuing contacts between representatives from North and South Yemen, who must realize that it is impossible to settle the conflict by military means. What is needed is mutual political will and a willingness to conduct a serious peace dialogue.

Kozyrev, Pakistani Minister Talks 'Useful'

PM0607103994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Jul 94 p 3

[Report by Vadim Markushin: "Russia and Pakistan: Common Concern for Stability"]

[Text] Andrey Kozyrev's meeting with his Pakistani counterpart Asif Ahmad Ali on Monday ended, as we know, with the signing of a bilateral agreement on non-visa trips on official and diplomatic passports and a protocol on political consultations between the Russian and Pakistani foreign ministres.

Yet dialogue between the two diplomats also showed something more substantial. To wit, the two countries' mutual desire to attach greater weight to independence in their relations, to move to a practical footing those fundamental interests which objectiely unite them. It was in this perspective that the situation in Afghanistan, the situation with regard to a Tajik settlement, and a number of other aspects of the situation in the region were discussed. The ministers included the settlement of the Bosnian conflict among the most important and promising spheres for collaboration between the two countries in the international arena discussed during the

talks. Especially as military formations of Russia and Pakistan are among the UN international forces in the region.

The question of the return of prisoners is, naturally, also among the topics which comprise the content of Russian-Pakistani dialogue. To judge by the Pakistani side's mood real progress can also be expected here.

The two ministers called the talks which took place useful, expressing the hopse that before the forthcoming official visit to Russia in the fall by Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto the sides will be able to prepare well. In order to give practical progress to the solution of problems which in general have been waiting a long time to be resolved. This prospect can only give rise to satisfaction.

Pakistani Minister Departs for Kiev

LD0607102294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0539 GMT 6 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Kozlov]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 6 Jul— Bilateral relations in the light of the forthcoming visit to Russia by Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, regional cooperation, and the strengthening of nuclear nonproliferation arrangements dominated talks held in the Russian capital by Pakistani Foreign Minister Asif Ahmad Ali. Today he wound up his working visit to Russia and left Moscow for Kiev.

The Pakistani foreign minister described the results of his visit to the Russian capital and his talks with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev as extremely useful. Both sides said they had a thorough exchange of views on a number of international and regional problems, including the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border, the situation in Afghanistan, and prospects for cooperation between the two countries in ensuring stability in south Asia. [passage omitted]

During the visit, Asif Ahmad Ali also met Anatoliy Adamishin, the Russian first deputy foreign minister; Valentin Kovalev, deputy chairman of the State Duma, and representatives of political and scientific circles in the Russian Federation.

Soskovets, RSA Official Discuss Military Cooperation

LD0407150494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1345 GMT 4 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov]

[Text] Moscow July 4 TASS—Russian and South African top officials discussed on Monday prospects for boosting military cooperation between the two countries.

Russian First Vice-Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets and South Africa's Arms Corporation Director Johan Mulmann agreed during their talks that there are good conditions for marketing Russian high tech goods and some types of armament in South Africa.

Soskovets stressed that Russia and South Africa have made progress in establishing their positions on each other's markets. Russian officials have held talks with the new South African government to discuss prospects for expanding trade in high tech goods and some types of weapons. The two countries are expected to sign soon a protocol of intent to boost bilateral trade.

The use of Russian technologies and arms in South Africa, stressed Soskovets, will help develop cooperation in other spheres, including mining, metallurgy and power engineering.

Soskovets and Mulmann pointed to the need to prepare a comprehensive agreement on trade and economic cooperation between Russia and South Africa which could be signed in November 1994.

Mulmann handed over to Soskovets an official invitation to attend a South African arms exhibition scheduled for the coming autumn.

Deputy Foreign Minister Views Qian Qichen's Visit

OW0507130994 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1000 GMT 3 Jul 94

[From the "Weekly Roundup of Major Events" program]

[Text] Russia is satisfied with the level of mutual understanding and confidence with China, said Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Panov in an interview with correspondent Shalipov of Moscow International Radio.

The Russian diplomat summed up Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's visit to Russia this week. Panov pointed out: The two countries have established constructive, good-neighbor relations at all levels from the highest level down. This has been demonstrated by the fact that the quality of Russian-Chinese relations is being upgraded continually. We have built a constructive partnership. Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's trip to Moscow affirmed this point. We have started making preparations for the second Russian-Chinese summit, and we can tell that the summit will be a success.

Another achievement of the Chinese foreign minister's visit is the initialing of the agreement on the western section of the Chinese-Russian border. That section of the border is not very long—only 55 km in length. It is the first time in the history of relations between the two countries that the Russian-Chinese border has been demarcated through a legal document. I would like to point out that an agreement on the eastern section has been ratified.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Panov also pointed out another achievement of the recent talks in Moscow; that is, a joint communique or declaration will be issued at the end of the Russian-Chinese summit. As everybody knows, this will be a document that looks toward the 21st century, which will set the direction for the development of bilateral relations before the turn of the century.

In exchanging views with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen on the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula, the Russian side stated that the important thing was to keep the Korean peninsula nuclear free. Russia and China share completely identical views in this regard. Both nations believe that [North] Korea should remain a signatory to the Nonproliferation Treaty. China expressed the hope that the upcoming round of talks between North Korea and the United States will produce results. China, however, does not rule out the convening of an international conference should bilateral talks fail to produce results. Deputy Foreign Minister Panov pointed out: Russia holds a position on this issue.

DPRK Relations Viewed on Treaty Anniversary

SK0607023794 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1000 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By station commentator Valeriy Trikov; from the "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] The sixth of July is the 33d anniversary of the conclusion of the treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between the former Soviet Union and the DPRK. Station commentator Valiriy Trikov writes on this:

The past 33 years since the conclusion of the treaty were marked with great events. First, the Soviet Union collapsed. The power structure of political circles of the world has changed since the Cold War ended. The situation of the Korean peninsula has also changed remarkably.

Russia, having succeeded the former Soviet Union, is supposed to implement the latter's duties under treaties it signed. The Soviet Union-DPRK Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Treaty signed in 1961 is no exception. This treaty still remains as a [word indistinct] document that legally stipulates relations between Russia and the DPRK.

With the recent events in the international arena, such as the ease in (?tensions) and the resumption of South-North dialogue, we can say that some items of the treaty have lost their (?justification). For example, the first item of the treaty stipulates that the two countries shall jointly protect the common socialist sense of values and items with regard to military cooperation. However, parts of the treaty regarding trade, economic, and cultural cooperation, are still meaningful.

Frankly speaking, current relations between Russia and the DPRK are not smooth. The two countries' opinion on internal policies differ greatly. However, this should not interrupt the improvement in normal relations between the two. Russia and the DPRK should improve their relations by pursuing common interests on the basis of mutual cooperation.

Foreign Ministry Calls For Conference on Cambodia

LD0507214294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1411 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Yuriy Kozlov and Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—The international community should give all-round assistance to Cambodia's legitimate authorities in their efforts aimed at preventing a further escalation of military confrontation which could destabilize the situation in Southeast Asia as a whole, Grigoriy Karasin, director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's information and press department, said at today's briefing in connection with Cambodia's worsening situation.

He said: "In our view, it would be useful for representatives of the most interested states, the members of the Paris conference on Cambodia, to get together for a substantial exchange of views on the situation in that country and the possible forms of such assistance. It goes without saying that we are talking here not of any kind of interference in Cambodia's internal affairs but of creating favorable conditions for ensuring full implementation of Cambodian settlement on the basis of the Paris agreements."

The Russian side still believes that a Cambodian settlement should be completed by political means on the basis of national reconciliation while preserving the most important elements of the Paris agreements, G. Karasin stressed.

'Mashinimport' To Build Oil Pipeline in Cuba

MK0507145794 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 2

[INTERFAX report: 'Mashinimport' To Build Oil Pipeline in Cuba"]

[Text] The Russian foreign trade association "Mashinimport" has signed a contract with Esimetal, a Cuban national company, on taking part in the construction of a 58.5-km technological pipeline from Varadero to Matanzas with an annual capacity of 2,200 tonnes of oil. Under the contract, the Russian enterprise will deliver to Cuba the equipment, materials, and technology required for the construction, and will also provide specialists. The oil pipeline will be constructed by Esimetal on its own. The first deliveries will roll in soon after "Mashinimport" receives a bank guarantee from "Vneshtorgbank." The overall cost of the deliveries will stand at around $20 million.

Political Issues

Yeltsin To Insist on Anticrime Edict Implementation

LD0507172794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1635 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—"In compliance with persistent demands of the public and broad strata of the population, the president will insist on his decree on combating crime and bandits being translated into life," said the presidential spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov in an interview with ITAR-TASS on Tuesday.

Commenting on the resolution passed by the State Duma "On the defence of constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens when combating crime", Kostikov said that the concern about the defence of human rights, expressed by the lower house of the Russian parliament, in full measure stems from prerogatives of this legislative body, which fully conforms to the president's strategy in the creation of civic society governed by law.

Kostikov expressed regret over the fact that the resolution passed by the State Duma has the traces of the "stylistic and the rhetorics" of confrontation between the legislative and executive branches of power characteristic of the former parliament. "Apparently, it would be wrong to reproach the State Duma on the whole, but there are strong forces in the legislative body which have not given up the psychology of confrontation," Kostikov said.

In his opinion, a desire expressed by some lawmakers to "outscore and teach a lesson of political chastity to Boris Yeltsin" has prevailed over the real concern about the elimination of the main source of social tension in the country - organised crime, Kostikov said. He believes that a realistic way of curbing violence and crime in the country is "not by competing who will speak louder about one's loyalty to human rights, but rather by pooling efforts of the legislative and executive branches of power against common evil," he noted. In this connection, Kostikov emphasised that "an attempt to blockade the president's decree on the defence of the population against bandits by means of the resolution adopted by the State Duma cannot but cause regret."

In Kostikov's opinion, a more constructive way is to take urgent measures to bring the Russian legislature in line with real needs of the country and by means of new laws to promote the creation of a modern judicial system and a system protecting human rights.

Shakhray Opposes Extending Authority To Power Branches

LD0507171594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1536 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yekaterina Zhilyakova]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—"The attitude of the Party of Russian Unity and Accord parliamentary faction to Vladimir Shumeyko's proposal to prolong authority of all branches of power is sharply negative. It is simply tactless for deputies to extend their authority themselves." this is how Sergey Shakhray, vice- premier of the Russian Federation and leader of the Party of Russian Unity and Accord, estimated the initiative of Chairman of the Federation Council, Vladimir Shumeyko, to postpone holding elections.

Sergey Shakhray called the idea of extending authority an aspiration of deputies to "retain power" and thus "bring political struggle to uncivilized forms".

Sergey Shakhray informed that on July 4 the parliamentary faction the Party of Russian Unity and Accord adopted a corresponding decision on this issue.

"We consider that at a complex transitional political period rather frequent election campaigns serve a civilized way of letting steam out from a boiling pot," the Russian vice-premier pointed out.

Sergey Shakhray stressed that representatives of all political forces should resolve their problems near ballot boxes but not on barricades. The leader of the parliamentary faction believes that it was exactly spreading the idea of early elections during a year and a half that lead to the sad events in October last year.

Zatulin Accuses Shakhray of Authoritarianism

MK0507142694 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 2

[Article by M. Shch.: "Accord Vanishes From Party of Russian Unity and Accord"]

[Text] The steering organs of the Party of Russian Unity and Accord [PRES] have been obliged to busy themselves yesterday and today with a specter of civil war that has taken up residence right in the party. The whole point is that K. Zatulin, one of the top people in the PRES, has challenged its founding father Sergey Shakhray, publicly accusing him of authoritarian ways, the desire to substitute for the party's collective mind, and of many other sins traditionally called great-leader mania [vozhdism].

One should do justice to Zatulin: He has backed his accusation by his own protest demarche, leaving his position of secretary of the PRES faction in the State Duma. Zatulin, however, whose statements in support of L. Kuchma as Ukrainian presidential candidate in recent weeks were not quite proper, can hardly shake Shakhray's positions in the PRES. First, at the moment parties can hardly do without recognizable faces on the TV screen. Second, Shakhray's positions in the provinces (it is its influence among regional elites that the PRES take pride in) are much firmer than those of Zatulin. Third, according to available information, it is Shakhray who holds the party till because it is through

him that major sums, including direct contributions, are added to the press funds. Finally, despite his position of head of the State Duma Committee on the Problems of Relations with the 'Near Abroad,' Zatulin has so far not been able to win laurels for himself in this sphere and continues to remain there rather as a representative of his party that has, according to the quota, the right to the Committee head seat. As Kravchuk has recently declared: "I know Yeltsin, Chernomyrdin, Kozyrev, Soskovets, and I don't know such leading Russian politicians as Zatulin." Thus, PRES will most likely get its internal crisis, which is unlikely to shake S. Shakhray's positions, under control. But a symptom of internal trouble is in evidence. In fact, Zatulin, a former Komsomol boss, is hardly alone in his anti-Shakhray impulse.

PRES Launches Preparation for 1995 Elections

MK0607073094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Jul 94 p 2

[Report by Yelena Cherkasova, Yevgeniy Krasnikov under the "Parties" rubric: "PRES Bracing for New Elections. Shakhray Promises Not To Switch to Opposition"]

[Text] The Party for Russian Unity and Accord [PRES] has decided to start preparations for the 1995 parliamentary elections. It is well known that two weeks ago PRES leader Sergey Shakhray made in general a fairly positive assessment of upper chamber Speaker Vladimir Shumeyko's proposal for delaying presidential and parliamentary elections for two years. After consultations with his party's other leaders, however, Sergey Shakhray appears to have decided to adjust his standpoint. This was confirmed by decisions made by the PRES presidium and federal council on 4-5 July.

Aleksandr Arinin, State Duma deputy from Bashkortostan (who was elected chairman of the PRES executive at the federal council), said that the party's current slogan should be: "Elections are past. Long live new elections!" Under Mr. Arinin's proposal, the PRES executive will be restructured and will include new departments that will deal exclusively with preparations for new elections. In addition, the PRES will set up "a school of leaders" and will hold a regular seminar at which its candidates will be trained.

The subject of the future elections also featured prominently in Sergey Shakhray's address. He suggested that the results of the recent regional elections be carefully studied and work of the party's regional branches be adjusted accordingly. In Mr. Shakhray's view, the PRES also imperatively needs its own information analysis center. At the same time, Mr. Shakhray assured that the PRES would not switch to the opposition's side, but will remain loyal to the president and the government.

The address to the PRES federal council by another government member—Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin—was somewhat more abstract in nature and was devoted exclusively to economic matters. Mr. Shokhin, however, also revealed something noteworthy. For instance, according to Mr. Shokhin, at the next meeting of the Group of Seven, "Russia for the first time will not be asking for money, but it will insist on the fair allocation of funding."

The federal council also heard an entirely diplomatic explanation of why Konstantin Zatulin was recently removed from his post of PRES parliamentary faction senior secretary. According to Yevgeniy Kozhemyakin, new senior secretary, "faction co-members" simply thought that Zatulin would be too hard-pressed to combine this post with the chairmanship of the parliamentary committee on CIS affairs. It should be noted, however, that there is another theory concerning relations between Messrs. Zatulin and Shakhray. According to the theory, Mr. Shakhray thought that Zatulin was too opposition-minded for the PRES; moreover, in relations with his party comrades he acts in a way typical of a former chief of a Komsomol construction team.

In Mr. Kozhemyakin's words, on the whole, the PRES faction is currently getting on superbly and is being quickly reinforced by independent deputies and also deputies who represent the interests of financial-industrial groups.

Filatov Discusses Political, Economic Issues

LD0507211494 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1745 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Interview with Sergey Filatov, head of President Yeltsin's administration, by unidentified correspondent, in Filatov's office; date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Sergey Aleksandrovich, what I would like to ask you now is how many decrees and directives were signed by President Yeltsin last week.

[Filatov] Not many, perhaps, just 47. Several of them can be singled out. First, our culture and our cultural organizations are still in a deplorable state, especially at the level of the federation. And in an attempt to provide further assistance and adding to his last year's November decree, the president set out in his last decree that cultural organizations be exempted from the sale to the state of the currency proceeds they earn during their creative and production activity. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] How do you generally assess the first stage of privatization which has ended? It was after all one of the highlights of the last week.

[Filatov] You know the most unpleasant thing tormenting everybody and pushing them to speak out against the flaws of this process is that during the current transitional period we are witnessing a very severe decline in production and a difficult economic situation in many enterprises. So only very few people have received the dividends they expected. That is very much a matter of the future, and the development of the

process will determine people's sentiments. On the other hand the task has been carried out. This is perhaps the only initiative which was begun and has been followed through to its logical end as set out in the program.

[Correspondent] Last week a meeting of the conciliatory commission took place. What did you discuss?

[Filatov] The main issue which we encountered here and which was at the center of our attention is how to calculate the results following the enforcement of the public accord treaty. The main problem we came across was when we started to consider whether a provision had or had not been implemented. This applies especially to figures, because unfortunately some people do not believe the figures of the State Committee for Statistics. And now there is even a saying to the effect that while before the State Committee for Statistics or enterprises themselves, hunting after rewards, used to overstate their figures, they are now understating them to avoid tax. So the situation is that the State Committee for Statistics, analysts, trade unions and other state structures—they all release varying figures for the same economic index. And then we decided that these issues must be considered at the roundtable meetings which represent all public and political forces, and state structures in order for us all to be able to reach agreement on which figures we should use to identify and to assess the progress in the implementation of the treaty.

[Correspondent] Do you think it is possible to reach agreement?

[Filatov] We will try. The two meetings we had have been hopeful.

[Correspondent] How often will the roundtable meet?

[Filatov] We agreed that we will meet about once a month. At these roundtable meetings—well, this is not a roundtable we are talking about but the conciliatory commission—at the meetings we will be talking about the results for the current period. That is definite. We will discuss controversial matters and the ones which will be sent to us by roundtable meetings and the Public Chamber. Following this, we will have to pass our own verdict as to where we are at present and what path we should take in the future. This is a new process for us. Therefore, the main thing is not to rush. There is no need for anybody to rush because this process should first be developed. Since we managed to draw up the actual treaty—and it was most difficult to draw up a treaty to which almost 900 people had to put their signatures—we must move forward and seek ways for agreeing on the implementation of that treaty. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] On 1 July an agreement was signed between the federal power of the Russian Federation and Kabardino-Balkaria on the division of powers. Can you comment on this?

[Filatov] This is indeed a very major treaty after the one with Tatarstan. The peculiarity here is that some people believe that such bilateral treaties must be signed only with the republics which did not sign the federation treaty, thereby allocating a special place to them. I must say that what has been characteristic of the president's latest actions is that they have been lacking the two major factors which used to stir fear in our people: fear of a civil war and fear of the collapse of the Russian Federation. These apprehensions have completely disappeared from the public debate. And this has been very important for the change taking place in the public opinion. This happened thanks to the constitution and the federation treaty, the president's message and the public accord treaty. It is a very important step marking our victory in this respect.

I think that in order for us to succeed in strengthening the Russian Federation as a whole, we must of course opt for signing these treaties, because these treaties are not just between republics but also between the organs of state power, obliging them to agree on the demarcation of powers and functions between the two levels of power. And if we indeed want to live in a federation we must generally have individual treaties with individual republics, which provide for the resources and potential of each individual member of the federation. I think the next step is that we must make oblasts and krays (?subject to the federation treaty as a third layer). [passage omitted]

Nationalities Ministry To Be Renamed

PM0507144594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Jul 94 First Edition p 3

[Report by Vladimir Yanchenkov: "Ministry Changes Name"]

[Text] Stavropol Kray—Last weekend Nikolay Yegorov, Russian minister for nationalities affairs and regional policy, took a working tour of Stavropol Kray, visiting, in particular, the eastern rayons bordering on Chechnya.

As the minister declared at a meeting with Cossacks and the kray's leaders in Kurskiy Rayon, the president of Russia has entrusted his department with elaborating a system of measures to normalize the situation around Chechnya.

At present the situation in the Stavropol Kray rayons bordering this mountainous republic remains complex. Chechen bandits rustle livestock and carry out raids on Russian population centers, and two machine operators have been killed by them in the rayon.

The normalization of the situation with Chechnya, Nikolay Yegorov emphasized, is not a task for a single day or a single month. A persistent and patient search for a peaceful solution to the problem is needed, and some progress has already been made in this respect.

Speaking about the work of the ministry which he heads, Yegorov pointed out that its actual name does not adequately reflect the functions entrusted to it. It is the

only ministry, he said, which represents the regions and the Federation components in their varied relations with the federal organs of power. A new concept of the ministry is now being worked out, and it will evidently be called the Ministry for Federation Affairs. A number of targeted programs for giving the regions of Russia effective assistance have been prepared.

Gorbachev: 1991 Coup Precipitated Collapse of USSR

LD0507172094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1537 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—"I stand for a new integration space. Objective laws require integration of peoples of the former Soviet Union," Russian Vice-Premier Sergey Shakhray told parliamentary hearings with the theme "the appearance of the Commonwealth of Independent States, its current state and prospects for the development".

The hearings were attended by ex-Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, ex-Chairman of the Russian Constitutional Court Valeriy Zorkin, ex-Soviet Parliament Chairman Anatoliy Lukyanov, members of Ukrainian and Belarussian parliament, public figures and experts.

Gorbachev said he has always thought that reforms are impossible in the unitary Soviet Union, but he did not expect that the processes would be so fast. The 1991 coup boosted disintegration of the union. "I did not think that the republics would approve the Belovezhskaya Pushcha Agreement. Peoples did not understand it was the beginning of dismemberment of the union," he noted.

"The Soviet leadership carries a certain degree of responsibility for what had happened. It is a lie that the coup members are guilty of the union's breaking. They called for preservation of the Soviet Union... The Belovezhskaya Pushcha Agreements are a lawless act, violation of the Constitutions of Russia, Ukraine and Belarus," said Anatoliy Lukyanov.

He suggested that the State Duma denounce the Belovezhskaya Pushcha Agreements. In his opinion, it will be the first step to restore the union.

Chernomyrdin Denies Removal of Gazprom Head

LD0507170994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1556 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin refuted today possible removal of Gazprom head Rem Vyakhirev from his post. He also denied any conflicts with Vyakhirev and said these rumors are absolutely groundless.

The premier has left for Perm to study the situation at the local defence plants which account for some 60 per cent of Perm regional enterprises. He will visit the Kirov plant, the Perm Motory and Motovilikhinskiye Zavody joint stock societies to control the fulfilment of defence and conversion production programs. Some of these programs involve foreign partners.

The Perm plants are lacking circulating assets. Sharp reduction of federal financing prevents the fulfilment of non-state orders.

Defends Gazprom Head, Government

LD0507212994 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Jul 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin left for a working trip to Perm today. Its main purpose is to find out about the state of affairs at enterprises in the defense complex, which form about 60 percent of Perm Oblast's industrial potential. But, before his departure, a conversation with journalists dealt not with that, but with the latest hot rumors about reshuffles within the government.

[Correspondent Aleksandr Shkirando] During an impromptu news conference given by the head of the government, which took place at Vnukovo-2 airport, attention focused on questions connected with rumors about the possible dismissal of Rem Vyakhirev, the head of Gazprom, which, as has already been reported, not only created a lot of fuss in Russia, but also, according to Viktor Chernomyrdin himself, inflicted quite a lot a damage on the country.

[Begin recording] [Chernomyrdin] Peace is just beginning to appear a little within the country, so someone has to throw a spanner in the works. There have already been many canards. You know about that in the media. We have...[pauses] Well, what can I say? The way I see it, it is not about Chernomyrdin personally. I do not think it is about Vyakhirev either. We have been working together for about 30 years now. We know one another quite well. So that thesis is ruled out in any situation and in all cases.

I can say a lot about Vyakhirev. I know him quite well. The man deserves far more today for the work he is doing. All this is being done just to harm to the country and its people. Because the firm that Vyakhirev runs is too complex. It is active on the market and on the world market—I mean, on the European market, but also on the world market—and the largest contracts and projects are being handled by that firm. One has to make sure that such things do not happen.

[Unidentified correspondent] On the whole, what is your opinion, the government's opinion, against the background of the latest sensational reports?

[Chernomyrdin] We are not getting everything right in the government. I must say that. But at least we do want to resolve a lot of things and resolve them in time. That is what I can say about the government now. In fact, everyone is away on business a lot these days. Documents are now being prepared. Documents are being prepared that we could adopt right now. They deal with taxes, apartments, and customs duty. We are now dealing with investment. Today there is a sea of questions, and we do not have enough hands or time. So today, we are not concerned with that. Today there is only work. I think that the government today, with all its shortcomings, is at least working together, and we are all united in our desire to work together. That is what I would say. [end recording]

Economic Issues

Deputy Minister Sees Positive Signs in Economy

LD0507223694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1410 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Ivantsov]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—Yakov Urinson, first deputy economics minister [name and title as received], thinks that positive changes can be seen in the Russian economy. Today he was addressing an international conference on the problems of attracting foreign investment in the Russian economy.

The deputy minister considered one of the positive factors to be the reduction in the state military order, which has shrunk by 70 percent since 1991. A further positive factor, in his view, was the fact that over 40 percent of workers were now employed in the nonstate sector. For five months of the current year, the monthly level of inflation had not risen above nine percent, and was less than five percent in June. What is more, the Central Bank's credit discount rate fell from 210 to 150 percent. Similarly, the number of people in Russia living below the poverty line dropped by 14 million—from 36 million to 22 million.

While citing this information, Yakov Urinson also stressed that the general slump in production in the Russian economy was continuing and amounted to 17 percent according to the results for the first half-year. The level of the state federal budget deficit also remained high, standing today at 9.5 percent of the gross national product. For the time being, the state was obliged to spend too much, according to Yakov Urinson, on defense and on supporting agriculture and a number of industries. One of today's main problems was still that of nonpayments, the amount of which was already four times greater than the money featuring in enterprises' accounts. The level of unemployment remained considerable, actually constituting about six percent of the able-bodied population. Goskomstat [State Committee for Statistics] put unemployment at 1.5 percent.

Continuing this topic, the deputy minister stressed that it was still one of the government's main tasks to turn the general slump in production into a structural one. That will enable the most promising enterprises to be separated out and removed from the production process. "Today it is necessary to stimulate the sources of growth in the economy," he noted. In this connection, Yakov Urinson particularly highlighted the role of direct foreign investment, which might, as he saw it, become a kind of locomotive for the survival of promising factories. There were now in Russia, he continued, some 14,000 enterprises with foreign capital. They had already created something like 300,000 extra jobs, and productivity in them was generally 50 percent higher than at similar Russian establishments.

Deputy Premier Warns of Depression in Industry

LD0507111594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0914 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul (ITAR-TASS)—Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets believes Russia may find itself at a point where the slump in producton could develop into depression in industry as a whole. He said this today during the parliamentary hearings at the State Duma on the socioeconomic situation in Russia.

Speaking about negative processes in industry, the first deputy prime minister noted that the overall slump in January-May of this year was 25 percent compared with the 1993 level. The volume of industrial production over the past two and a half years has, essentially, halved.

At the same time, Oleg Soskovets noted that there are also positive trends in the economy. The fall in production occurred against the background of a drop in the level of inflation which stood at seven percent in May but was five percent in June. These are the lowest figures for the whole period of economic reform. The government regards holding inflation at seven percent by the end of 1994 as one of its main objectives.

The first deputy prime minister believes that the positive tendencies of the first half of the year will be consolidated in the third quarter of this year.

He also noted that the government will continue with its course of pursuing an active social policy which, in particular, will take the form of an increase in the volume of housing construction.

Russian Economy Seen as 'Third World'

LD0507180394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1710 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—Chairman of the Duma Committee for Economic Policies, Sergey Glazyev,

believes that the rapid collapse of Russia's scientific and industrial potential might put Russia in a position of a third world country.

Speaking at parliamentary hearings today devoted to the socio-economic situation in Russia, Glazyev said that the situation is especially alarming in the communications, aviation, ship-building, electrotechnic and electronic industries, where domestic projects are not realised because of the absence of state support, while outdated assets are being replaced by foreign-made equipment.

"We are facing a real threat of fatal destruction by the end of the year of many branches of the machine-building industry, chemical and light industries which make up the core of the country's economy," Glazyev said.

He reminded of the president's message addressed to the Federal Assembly, which contains serious criticism of the government which has failed to work out an efficient structural policy during two years. Glazyev pointed out that even now, six months later, the problem of technological backwardness has not only worsened, but irreversible de-industrialization of the country has begun.

Glazyev blamed the government for inaction, saying that despite the continuing decline in investment activities, "state investments "are still not the subject of concern in Viktor Chernomyrdin's cabinet."

Military & Nuclear Issues

Grachev on No. Caucasus Visit, Troop Problems

PM0507134994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 1

[Report by Nikolay Astashkin and Vladimir Yermolin: "Mobile Forces Formed in Southern Russia and Ready To Resolve Any Tasks"]

[Text] The working visit by Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian defense minister, to the North Caucasus region ended on Saturday.

Summarizing some of the results of the visit, the minister, speaking at the airport, noted among other things that he was generally satisfied with the state of affairs in the North Caucasus Military District. At meetings with the administration heads of oblasts, krays, and cities and with the Dagestan leadership the sides managed to resolve questions pertaining to the arrangements for the troops and the provision of housing for servicemen and their families. It should be noted that the local leaders are feeling the searing heat of the "hot spots" in the Transcaucasus and the North Caucasus. Life once again proves the simple truth that when faced with danger no one takes it into their head to talk about the military in an arrogantly dismissive tone or to doubt whether it is worth spending money on the Army.

In the region where the North Caucasus Military District units are stationed you can sense an interested attitude toward the defenders of the fatherland. As the minister said, the residential towns which have been and are being built for the troops withdrawn from Germany are a cause of special pride to him. And homes are not being built for those troops alone. For example, thanks to the commissioning of a residential town in Volgograd (1,240 apartments) the garrison's housing waiting list has fallen to 250 families. Turkish workers paid with German money have finished the construction of this "little corner of heaven" in just 15 months. By the end of this year another 30 of them will have been commissioned on a turnkey basis in Russia. Each settlement will have an average of 2,000 apartments. It is not hard to work out how many happy people there will be then. Of course there are hundreds of thousands of servicemen and people discharged into the reserve who will still have housing problems, and resolving those problems will be extremely difficult. But to be fair it should be noted that something is being done here.

In previous reports we described how Defense Minister Army Gen. Pavel Grachev has been visiting primarily those units which form the backbone of the the Mobile Forces. In Volgograd he gave a high rating to the skill of the guard's motorized rifle reconnaissance division under the command of Guards Major General Aleksandr Kutikov. This is a combined unit which for a number of years now has been carrying out complex tasks in the "firing zone." Together with subunits of the Airborne Troops it forms a "ring" of Mobile Forces in southern Russia. In all, according to the defense minister, the Mobile Forces in Russia will number somewhere around 200,000 men.

Yes, there are difficult problems facing the Russian Federation Armed Forces. And when you see with your own eyes the conditions that military people are serving in you cannot help thinking that it might help if some of the architects of the federal budget in Moscow were to visit these places. Perhaps then they would understand, too? For example, they might understand the simple fact that you have to pay people properly for doing a difficult job that is vitally necessary to the state. But at the moment the defense budget is barely sufficient to pay servicemen, workers, and employees their wages. There are only 6.6 trillion rubles left for everything else. This is only enough to keep the soldiers fed, clothed, and shod. "Financial provision for the Army," Army Gen Pavel Grachev said, "is at present in a critical state."

Yes, when the coffers are empty, all you can do is rely on the fact that the military man is accustomed to the "hardships of service and life." That selfsame military man without whom Russia will not remain intact or survive in the immediate years ahead.

Deputy Defense Minister Vitaliy Turbin Retires

LD0407205494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 4 Jul 94

[Text] Today Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a decree on the retirement of Deputy Defense Minister, Lieutenant-General Vitaliy Turbin, the president's press service said.

Servicemen's Pay Increased by 40 Percent

LD0507190594 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1830 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Russian servicemen's pay is being increased by 40 percent from 1 July. Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian defense minister, signed the appropriate order on 4 July. This defines the procedure for implementing in the armed forces the Russian government's decision of 30 June on increasing the pay of those working in the budget sphere.

Yerin: No Nuclear Weapon Components Stolen

LD0507141794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin said Tuesday that no radioactive materials used in nuclear weapons had been stolen in Russia nor had attempts to steal them been made. Speaking at a joint news conference with FBI Director Louis Freeh after the signing of a protocol between the two agencies Yerin said that the security system for nuclear installations in Russia was thorough and reliable. He added that security of these facilities was also improving. Yerin explained that the Western media reports of organized crime groups stealing weapon-grade uranium sensationalized the pilfering of low-radioactivity materials which could not be used in production of weapons.

Yerin said that the Russian authorities unanimously believed that Freeh's visit to Moscow was useful for Russian law enforcement agencies. The protocol the FBI and his ministry signed will be helpful in searching out criminals, he said.

Freeh said that the Russian Interior Ministry should have its representatives in Washington. He made it clear that the protocol did not provide for the setting up of joint anti-terrorism squads but the Russian and American officers would be able to visit each other's training centers to exchange expertise.

Yerin said that the Russian president's anti-crime decree did not allow for any moves outside the boundaries of the law. He emphasized that there would be no replay of 1937 terror.

Program Reviews Chemical Weapons Development

LD0207162894

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1241 GMT on 2 July carries a 30-minute program entitled "Shikhany Knot" about Shikhany, Russia's main research center for chemical and biological weapons and a testing range situated in central Russia, 100 km from Saratov. The program, filmed a year ago, features scientist Vil Mirzayanov, described by the announcer as the first person to draw public attention to the fact that chemical weapons were still being developed in Russia despite its having signed the international convention on banning chemical armaments. Mirzayanov was accused of disclosing state secrets, and at the time of the filming he was still being tried.

Nikolay Pakhomov, head of the directorate for the elimination of chemical weapons at Shikhany, said in an interview: "Until 1987 we were involved in work on chemical weapons, as we are now. But the orientation of this work has changed. Whereas previously we tried to assess how powerful this or that weapon might be, how we could use it, or how it could be used by our potential enemy, today the main emphasis in our work is on eliminating this type of weapon."

Natalya Kosinets, the author of the program, recalls the history of chemical warfare and Russia's elaborations in this field. She says a secret Russian-German agreement on cooperation in producing chemical weapons was concluded in the late 1920's. At this point a document with the details of German investment in Tomka—later to become Shikhany—is shown. Research was tightly controlled by security bodies and advanced rapidly, Kosinets says.

Vil Mirzayanov then says: "In Moscow alone, over six factories specialized in producing toxic chemical agents. There were also two factories in Kazan. One could say that in the European part of Russia there was no city with a relatively big population where chemical weapons were not produced." An unidentified senior officer adds: "In terms of development of our chemical weapons, we were on a par with the United States and with other countries possessing them. We were by no means inferior to them."

According to scientists Vladimir Uglev and Vil Mirzayanov, a secret research program codenamed "Novice" produced in the late 1980's a toxic agent five-six times more powerful than any other known poisonous substances, including VX. The announcer points out that it was for mentioning this discovery in print that Mirzayanov was prosecuted.

Academician Anatoliy Kuntsevich, until recently chairman of the committee for convention problems relating to chemical and biological weapons, defends the principle of secrecy, saying: "If we today publish a list of

the directions in which research on chemical weapons developed in the past 50, 30 or 20 years, this would be tantamount to giving other countries a handbook on producing these weapons. I am deeply convinced that a number of states have not given up the idea of obtaining chemical weapons, and you know that not all countries have joined the convention. Ensuring Russia's national security consists in preventing this type of information from being leaked."

Footage of experiments on animals at Shikhany is then shown. Aleksandr Kochergin, head of the chemical research institute, says that six of his employees had become disabled as a result of unsuccessful experiments. Mirzayanov adds: "Two-three accidents a year were a standard phenomenon." This is followed by footage of a rally by local residents demanding elimination of chemical weapons in the area.

Elimination programmes are then discussed, with the announcer saying: "The elimination program involves six types of poisonous substances. The best known is mustard gas. At the first stage it is being planned to eliminate chemical weapons in three places: Chuvashia, Udmurtia and the Gornyy settlement. The latter is situated 100 km from Shikhany. Here the reserves of poisonous substances are not big—1,500 tonnes. They were brought here during the war. Elimination is to start from mid-1997—that is, if the local resident agree. Altogether, the program envisages 40,000 tonnes of toxic agents being eliminated." Mirzayanov commens: "In the 60 years that chemical weapons are being produced in Russia, according to the most modest estimates, over 600,000 tonnes of chemical agents should have been produced. Yet for convention and elimination purposes, only 40,000 tonnes were declared." Kuntsevich agrees that the amount exceeds 40,000 tonnes, but says Mirzayanov's estimate is exaggerated.

The testing range at Shikhany is then shown. The announcer says that its area is 46,000 hectares, which is larger than Malta. Aleksandr Stepanov, the commander of the range, says that this is the first time it was filmed. He said: "Approximately 4,000 tonnes of adamsite is buried here. It was brought here from throughout the former Soviet Union. It was previously planned to dig it out and put it into better receptacles and a better storage place. But the country is having financial difficulties; no money is being allocated to this project, and I simply do not know what will happen to this burial in future."

All the scientists appearing in the program express their concern over the possibility of chemical weapons becoming available to criminals and terrorists.

The program ends with a discussion among the program participants on what happened in the past year, and providing an update on Mirzayanov's case.

Missile Forces Aide on Nuclear Safety Issues

PM0507103094 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jul 94 p 3

[Interview with Colonel General Vladimir Alekseyevich Nikitin, deputy commander in chief of the Strategic Missile Forces, by Vladimir Krivomazov of the Strategic Missile Forces press center and Aleksandr Dolinin of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA; date, place not given: "Plutonium—Under Lock and Key"—first three paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] Everyone is talking about nuclear weapons today. The mass media, having obtained access to this topic, are going all-out. Some of them are simply exploiting it, using rumors and conjectures to frighten ordinary people: "What if a disaster worse than Chernobyl occurs? What if the 'mafiosi' get hold of the keys to missile launchers?..."

How do things really stand in the strategic nuclear forces as regards the maintenance of these weapons? How safe are they?

Colonel General Vladimir Alekseyevich Nikitin, deputy commander in chief of the Strategic Missile Forces, answers these questions. Let us point out that the Missile Forces are the custodians of 60 percent of the country's nuclear munitions.

[Nikitin] Missile systems, I can tell you in all seriousness, are no more dangerous than any complex technical system, be it a car, a machine tool, or a domestic washing machine. As long as you do not break the rules and standards for handling them, there will be no accidents.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] In view of the well-known international accords, how far has the level of nuclear danger been lowered in the world?

[Nikitin] It is well known that during the years of confrontation between the two military-political blocs, in the USSR and the United States alone there were some 30,000 nuclear warheads on alert status. The "nuclear legacy" of the former USSR has been sensibly reduced. After 1 January 2003 the arsenals of Russia and the United States should retain no more than 3,000-3,500 warheads each.

The parameters of reduction and limitations enshrined in the strategic offensive arms treaties go hand in hand with the desire to maintain the strategic balance at a radically lower level, guaranteeing stability and predictability into the new century.

Important political decisions, however, for us missilemen, are no reason to weaken or reduce our combat readiness, still less to relax our monitoring of nuclear safety. That will continue to be maintained at the appropriate level, and monitoring will continue to be improved and tightened up.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] How?

[Nikitin] Alert duty itself, which is maintained around the clock in the Missile Forces, is a guarantee of nuclear safety. Safety is ensured by the high level of professionalism of the missilemen and many thousands of people involved in an integrated, centralized system of organizational and technical measures—at every stage of the development, production, maintenance, and destruction of nuclear weapons and nuclear munitions and the recycling of radioactive products. A hitch at any one of these stages would long since have resulted in catastrophe. In more than 30 years of the Strategic Missile Forces' existence, this has not happened.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] We are not talking about catastrophes, even minor accidents could be disastrous. You said yourself: The slightest violation of standards, and...

[Nikitin] A whole range of measures are stipulated in the Strategic Missile Forces for this reason. Primarily technical measures. Back in 1964 a system of technical servicing of missile systems that was new for those days was introduced in the forces—a system of standardized regulations. Thanks to the strict servicing intervals for all combat launchers, there was a significant improvement in the quality of highly complex technological operations, and nuclear safety was thereby placed under rigorous control.

There are other measures too. They include a special system of training specialists, constant oversight of the maintenance of missiles and nuclear munitions, regular and random checks, and triple monitoring of the execution of particularly important and dangerous operations.

All this reduces the risk of nuclear incidents to zero. In the Strategic Missile Forces, the ultratoxic component of nuclear warheads—plutonium—has never once escaped into the atmosphere.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Obviously it is easier to ensure nuclear safety in a stationary missile system. What if it is a mobile system—the ground-based "Topol" or a railroad system? In the initial period of service of mobile missile systems it is well known that there were several instances of self-propelled launchers turning over.

[Nikitin] There were several such cases in the eighties. Mainly through the fault of the drivers on difficult transport routes. But with no serious consequences. The "Topols" have built-in protection against this. At the same time we regard the overturning of such a "fragile" article as an extraordinary occurrence. These cases led to major work to improve safety in the operation of mobile systems. Thorough training of drivers of the "missile-carriers" was established. Soon, such cases ceased in the forces. At the same time the designers built in a guaranteed safety margin. Experts calculated that on an RS12-M "Topol" autonomous launcher, the probability of an incident in the course of one year can be estimated at one in 100,000. In world practice this is considered guaranteed safe.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] So Russians can heave a sigh of relief: The designers and missilemen have done everything necessary? But how does the unstable sociopolitical and economic situation in the country affect nuclear safety?

[Nikitin] It worries us, of course, but it does not frighten us. All the problems are soluble. For instance, for reasons we all know, coproduction collapsed among enterprises of the military-industrial complex that used to provide the forces with everything they needed. So Russian coproduction was set up. We are also helping those CIS states where there are still nuclear missile weapons. All this is, of course, not easy, in view of the financial situation in the country, but we are not giving up, we are looking for solutions. Whatever the circumstances.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA wrote anxiously of unauthorized electricity cuts affecting missile systems. This problem has now been sorted out in principle, although in some places there are still attempts to blackmail the missilemen.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Vladimir Alekseyevich, how reliable is the system for the protection of nuclear missile weapons?

[Nikitin] It was set up back in the earliest days of the Missile Forces, and is constantly improving. I will say just one thing: Anyone who might form an evil intention will get nowhere.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] So it seems that all questions of nuclear safety have been dealt with in the Strategic Forces.

[Nikitin] Certainly. Our people bear personal responsibility for this. And the problem of nuclear safety should not be made the subject of rumor and conjecture. Whatever the difficulties, in the Strategic Nuclear Forces safety is maintained at the necessary level.

Colonel General Igor Dmitriyevich Sergeyev, commander in chief of the Strategic Missile Forces, recently paid a visit, at the invitation of the U.S. Defense Department, to several facilities of their strategic forces, visited three missile bases, and saw for himself that our missilemen are in no way inferior to the Americans, and that the problems of nuclear safety are dealt with in a skilled manner.

Federal Assembly

Duma, Federation Council Urge End to Bosnian Conflict

LD0507221194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1545 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul—The foreign affairs committees of the State Duma and the Federation Council of the

Russian Federation are seriously concerned about the continuous bloody conflict on the long-suffering soil of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and are worried about the future of all their peoples. This is said in the appeal to the Bosnia-Herzegovina parliament, the People's Assembly of the Bosnian Serbs, and the Yugoslavian parliament adopted today and signed by committee chairmen Vladimir Podiprigora and Vladimir Lukin.

The committees "believe it is unacceptable that this dangerous seat of conflict in Europe continues to exist. The conflict is fraught with most pernicious consequences for international security and peace," the document says. The committees appealed to all sides to the conflict to stop the fratricidal conflict, to show common sense in this crucial moment, and find the moral strength to reject the logic of war, discard mutual hostility, and accept the well-balanced proposals of the international community aimed at restoring just and stable peace in the region.

Deputies Says Economy in 'Catastrophic' Phase

LD0507173794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1508 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Participants in parliamentary hearings on the economic situation in the Russian Federation have concluded that the country's economy has entered the phase of what they call catastrophic destruction in the sphere of material production.

In their recommendations the members of parliament say that production has fallen below 50 percent of the 1990 level and in a number of industries the fall has been as large as 70-80 percent. The recommendations say that the irreversible decay of the industrial potential has affected most research-intensive industries, the defense and machine building and light industry and keeps growing.

Speakers at the parliamentary hearings said that the extensive liberalization of economic activity has resulted in the suppression of economic freedom by criminal structures, which were quick to establish control of the crucial sectors of external economic activity, trade and finances.

Voucher privatization has produced a rather hazy and ineffective system of property relations in the economy. The recommendations say that most privatized enterprises have failed to be placed in the hands of genuine owners. In reality they are in the control of poorly organized share-holders—members of work collectives, management and people placed by local bodies of government.

The recommendations say that the economic policy of the government does not match "either the real economic situation or the officially formulated targets and goals".

Committee Chairman Views Crisis in Agriculture

LD0507203094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2017 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[Text] Moscow July 6 TASS—When analysed, the situation in the Russian agriculture shows that stabilization is out of the question this year and next year, too, Aleksandr Nazarchuk, chairman of the State Duma Committee for Agriculture, said during parliamentary hearings on the social and economic situation in Russia on Tuesday.

A slump in agricultural production has thrown Russia back to its position in the 50s, as far as major indicators are concerned.

Living standards of Russian peasantry continue to deteriorate. Peasants do not get their wages for six or seven months, Nazarchuk said.

The government announces that it is unable to defend domestic agricultural workers. Any stabilization is out of the question under the circumstances—given the lack of fedaral support, he added.

Nazarchuk did not exclude the possibility that Russian villages may have to switch on self-support next autumn.

According to him, the State Duma should pass the code on land as soon as possible. The code should reflect the basic principle consisting in a reasonable balance of the rights of a land-owner.

It is also necessary to adopt a law on purchases and deliveries of agricultural products intended to meet federal needs. As long as the government does not ensure that it purchase the crop he gathered at stable prices, a positive breakthrough in agriculture will be out of the question, Nazarchuk emphasized.

Committee Views Draft Law on Military Equipment

LD0507194794 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1830 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The State Duma's Defense Committee has discussed a draft law on recycling redundant weaponry and military equipment. The document defines the overall legal and economic bases for the actions of the state power organs, and also interested enterprises and institutions on this question. It is proposed to draw up a federal program for recycling weaponry. The draft law regards redundant military equipment and property as federal property. It is expected that after work on the document has been completed the document will be presented to the State Duma for discussion before the end of July.

Regional Affairs

Stepashin on Week-Long Trip to Northern Caucasus

MK0507101594 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 3

[Report by Maksim Sokolov: "Sergey Stepashin's Trip to Northern Caucasus. A Chekist Has Somewhere To Show Himself in the Caucasus"]

[Text] Sergey Stepashin, Federal Counterintelligence Service [FCS] chief, is on a tour of the Northern Caucasus from between 4 and 8 July to guide Chekist work in the regions. The choice of the place for the trip can be accounted for by the fact that the region is an exceptionally favored target for virtually all the authorized FCS fields of activity: There are interethnic conflicts threatening the country's integrity, there is organized crime, there are—as Stepashin pointed out—numerous foreign spies.

The main objective of Stepashin's trip, according to Aleksandr Mikhaylov, head of the FCS Public Relations Center, is "to get familiar with the operational situation on the spot in connection with the 'criminalization' of the situation in the region." Visiting Stavropol, Krasnodar, and Rostov on Don, Stepashin intends to discuss with Northern Caucasus chekists specific tasks that follow from the decisions of the First All-Russian FCS Conference and the president's edict on combating banditry.

Judging from the geography of the FCS head's trips (the Far East, and now the Northern Caucasus), he is primarily interested in the regions where the crime situation is close to that in Colombia. A quite natural choice for a fighter against banditry. But Stepashin is not simply a militiaman, but a Chekist, and the Northern Caucasus—rich in more than bandits—provides him with chances to show his worth also as chief of secret policy. Scheduled for midweek is the president's meeting with Ossetian leader Askharbek Galazov on settling the Ossetia-Ingushetia conflict. Already in the region—not without a connection with the expected meeting—is Nikolay Yegorov, minister of nationalities affairs, but given the conflict's specifics, the Chekist's help for the people's commissar for nationalities is natural.

Given the keynote of what Stepashin has been saying of late—"foreign intelligence services are working against us brazenly"—one can recall that the FCS chief pointed out two months ago that spying is developed in the Northern Caucasus preternaturally. Stepashin is likely to send Chekists to fight not only bandits but also spies. The wording of the anti-banditry edict is rather vague, and there is nothing in principle that prevents extending its provisions to fighting against agents of foreign intelligence services.

Rules Out Military Solution in Chechnya

LD0507144294 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Sergey Stepashin, director of the Russian Federal Counterintelligence Service, has completed his trip to the Stavropol Kray. ITAR-TASS reports that he and the administration of the kray, as well as representatives from the law enforcement bodies and Cossacks have examined the situation in the border regions of the Northern Caucasus. They discussed practical measures to regularize the situation along the borders, and looked into the possibility of implementing the president's decree on the fight against banditry in the Stavropol Kray.

Speaking about one of the most difficult problems in the Northern Caucasus, the problem of Chechnya, Sergey Stepashin underlined that Russian authorities will never use military force to solve it.

Discusses Chechnya Situation

LD0507194094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1854 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Styazhkin]

[Text] Stavropol July 5 TASS—The Russian president will never agree to use military force and shed blood in an effort to solve one of the most complicated problems in the northern Caucasus—the one related to the Chechen republic, Sergey Stepashin, director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service (FSK), told a news conference here on Tuesday, at the end of his short stay in Stavropol.

Yeltsin has an ample supply of negotiatory, legal and diplomatic means to solve the problem this year already, Stepashin added.

According to Stepashin, he met with the leaders of the Stavropol territorial administration, representatives of local law enforcement agencies, Cossacks, his subordinates from the Stavropol department of the F.S.K. and discussed the situation in the borderline districts in the northern Caucasus, practical measures to be taken to restore due order at the borders and prepared proposals to be put forward at a session of the Russian Security Council which is scheduled for July 13 and is to pay special attention to borderline issues.

They also discussed measures aimed at implementing the presidential anti-crime decree in the region.

Touching upon the terrorist acts at the Mineralniye Vody airport which are becoming more and more frequent and involve taking hostages and demands to be given arms and hard currency in exchange for them, Stepashin underlined that Russian law enforcement agencies have ample opportunities to neutralize most defiant terrorist groups, to protect the lives of civilians taken as hostages.

These opportunities, including those of material and technical order, are constantly being improved, Stepashin said.

Moscow Accused of Causing Tension With Groznyy

LD0507164994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1526 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow July 5 TASS—Aleksandr Sterligov, ex-KGB general, national-patriotic leader and chairman of the opposition Russian National Council [RNA], is prone to think that the Russian-Chechen relations are tense through the Russian guilt.

"The mechanism of destabilization was launched by appeals (of Boris Yeltsin) for sovereignties. Kremlin is now ripening the fruits of its policy," Sterligov told a news conference here today after visiting the Chechen Republic with a national-patriotic delegation.

In his words, the "official Russian diplomacy 'is playing an unfair game' as regards the Chechen Republic and its President Dzhokhar Dudayev they are trying to slander in any way. Dudayev is ready for negotiations with Moscow but the Russian official authorities are destabilizing the Chechen situation". Money to pay the pensions to the Russian community of the Chechen Republic is deliberately not transferred, said Sterligov.

"Dudayev most of all wants a Russian Government to protect the Russian national-state interests and have normal relations without mediators with the Chechen Republic," he added.

The Russian national-patriots went to the Chechen Republic to prevent with citizen diplomacy further aggravation of Russian- Chechen relations and "a conflict between Christians and Muslims", said the general. The delegation met the Chechen president and members of the Elders' Council. A "Russian-Chechen National-Consultative council" has been set up.

Federation Council Speaker Visits Kaliningrad

LD0507194194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1904 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Biryukov]

[Text] Kaliningrad July 5 TASS—The speaker of the upper house of the Russian parliament Vladimir Shumeyko, who arrived in the Russian city of Kaliningrad on a three-day visit, said today that the construction of a new block of flats for servicemen and their families withdrawn from the Baltic states was an example of good-neighborly and mutually advantageous relations between Russia and Lithuania.

Shumeyko addressed a ceremony of handing over 300 newly-built apartments to servicemen and their families.

In a military compound which is being build by the Lithuanian association "Selma" Shumeyko met with the Chairman of the Lithuanian Parliament Ceslovas Jursenas, who arrived there for talks with his Russian counterpart. The talks, attended by representatives from the Kaliningrad region, focused on problems of unimpeded transit of passengers, military and non-military cargoes across the Lithuanian territory, customs duties and railway tariffs.

The delay in the solution of this problem considerably worsens the socio-economic situation of the Russian enclave on the Baltic sea coast, whose economy to 90 per cent depends on the transportation of goods to and from the enclave.

During a conference held by the regional administration on Tuesday morning, participants noted the possibility of isolation of the region from Russia as a result of Lithuania's tightening customs and border regime and curtailing the federal investment programme.

"The practice of violating constitutional rights of a million Russians living in this part of Russia's territory is inadmissible," Shumeyko said. "Single rules worked out by the Federal Assembly should be in effect everywhere in Russia, taking into account the specifics of its territories. The Kaliningrad region is the only one of its kind and the centre should work out a purpose-oriented policy towards this region," Shumeyko said.

Shumeyko Urges Special Consideration

LD0507193994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1855 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Biryukov]

[Text] Kaliningrad July 5 TASS—Visiting Speaker of the Russian Federation Council Vladimir Shumeyko has called on ministries and department to take into account the enclave position of the Kaliningrad region.

In his opinion, the curtailment of federal investment programs and adoption of normative acts without the account of special position of the Kaliningrad region hamper the implementation of the presidential decree and the government resolution. "Constitutional rights of a million of Russians living on this territory are violated. This is inadmissible", said Shumeyko.

The three-day visit of the speaker will include meetings with the electors to discuss economic and social problems of the region.

Today Shumeyko met visiting Lithuanian Sejm head Ceslovas Jursenas to discuss free transit of passengers and cargo, including military, via Lithuanian territory, as well as customs dues and railroad tariffs bearing in mind the enclave on 90 per cent depends on the delivery of goods.

A meeting at the regional administration noted the Kaliningrad isolation as a result of the Lithuanian tough customs and border regime. Speaking of the Russian policy on the Kaliningrad region, Shumeyko said that Russia should have single rules elaborated on the Federal Assembly, but these rules should take into account regional peculiarities.

Chernomyrdin Arrives in Perm

LD0507201294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1750 GMT 5 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Gennadiy Yezhov and Leonid Bagdatyev]

[Text] Perm (the Urals), 5 Jul—Viktor Chernomyrdin, head of the Russian Government, arrived in Perm today for a two-day working visit to acquaint himself with the state of things at defense complex enterprises. Tomorrow the Russian prime minister is to visit the Perm Kirov works, the Perm Motors, and Motovilikha Works joint-stock companies. At Perm airport he told ITAR-TASS correspondents that even by visiting three major works it would be possible to draw conclusions on the state of, and prospects for, the industrial regions in order to make correct decisions on its problems in Moscow.

Later tomorrow Viktor Chernomyrdin will hold a working conference with heads of the oblast and the town and directors of enterprises.

Yakutia Sees Emergency Economic Situation

MK0507143494 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 2

[Unattributed "Provincial Chronicle report]

[Text] Yakutsk—A session of the republic's State Assembly upper chamber approved an updated 1994 budget the other day. Its revenue is 2.421 trillion, and expenditures are 3.289 trillion. The deficit is 868 billion. The deputies set up a parliament commission to look into questions connected with receipts and withdrawals of foreign currency, the gold fund, the diamond fund, and into creating a committee on precious metals and stones and hard currency.

The State Assembly deputies defined the situation in the republic's economy as one of emergency. They passed an appeal to the president, the Federal Assembly, and the Russian Federation Government. The total debt by the republic's enterprises amounts to around 4 trillion rubles, while 86 percent of Yakutia's enterprises do not have enough funds to pay their suppliers and repay their credits. Backlogged wages total 108 billion. As little as between 5 and 10 percent of last year's amount of consumer goods have been imported as of 25 June. Such a position may lead to disaster in the coming winter. The deputies see the reason for the emergency situation in the absence of any regional economic policy of the Russian Federation in regard to its northern territories.

Feasibility Study for Deep-Water Northern Port Begins

PM0507145594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 94 p 8

[ITAR-TASS report: "Major Commercial Port To Be Built in the North"]

[Text] Murmansk—Preparation of a feasibility study for a Northern Maritime Commercial Port, which it is planned to build on the coast of the Kola Peninsula in the area of the settlement of Liinakhamari, has begun.

Thanks to its location in an area of deep water, the new port will take ships of over 40,000 tonnes displacement, which cannot moor at Murmansk maritime commercial port because of the insufficient depth of the water in Kola bay. According to specialists, the creation of another transportation center will enable more intensive use to be made of northern maritime routes for the transportation of cargo.

Budget Cuts Hit Aid Programs for Northerners

PM0407130594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 94 p 1

[Report by Igor Gritsenko: "Eleven Million Northerners: No Fuel, No Bread, No Hope"]

[Text] A critical situation has formed over the delivery of foodstuffs and fuel to Russia's northern regions. Remember, even according to the most conservative estimates, over 11 million people live in these territories.

The delivery of vital products—mainly energy sources—has been disrupted, essentially because of untimely financing. This primarily concerns certain areas in Yakutia and north Sakhalin. Even if the Russian Government urgently allocates the promised 2.8 trillion rubles [R] at the beginning of July, it will nevertheless not be possible to fully implement the delivery program in all 28 northern territories: The navigational possibilities of many northern rivers are extremely restricted, and are geared to the period between the end of spring and mid-summer. Meanwhile, goods in exchange for the money made available will only be able to arrive in August-beginning of September.

As Valentin Tsvetkov, chairman of the Federation Council Committee for the North, told IZVESTIYA, the new budget is making it practically impossible to implement the law "On the North," as well as numerous federal programs in this sphere.

Pensioners and invalids in the North are in danger of never being able to leave the area again. The financing of the housing construction program for people leaving the North for central Russian regions has been reduced by a factor of 14 and now constitutes only R70 billion. According to specialists' calculations, a maximum of 400

apartments can be built with this money, whereas the number of needy people waiting in line is estimated at tens of thousands.

The program of aid for children of the North, who not only do not have the opportunity of going on holiday in the main part of the country but do not even receive normal medical service as it is, has been reduced from R8 billion to 2.4 billion. The requested 811 billion for economic support for numerically small peoples of the North, who live in a most impoverished situation anyway, has been reduced by a factor of nearly seven.

"It is working out that the North is a burden on the country's economy," Valentin Tsvetkov says. "But it must not be forgotten that it is precisely the North that accounts for 20 percent of Russia's gross national product and 90 percent of its entire [hard] currency income."

According to Russian Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray, who heads the government inspection commission concerned with problems of delivering products to the north of the country, the situation in certain regions (particularly Yakutia, Khabarovsk Kray, and Irkutsk Oblast) is really alarming. However, Shakhray is convinced that the northern territories will still succeed in being able to use practically all the money allocated by the government for deliveries.

In an interview with IZVESTIYA, the vice premier stated that the main freight—food products and fuel—has already been sent to the North under the guarantee of the Ministry of Finance as well as local administrative budgets. In his opinion, the current delivery problems have shown once again that in the North, market methods of management should be combined with obligatory, albeit partial administrative intervention.

Over 70 Percent of Rostov Property Privatized

PM0407120594 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 30 Jun 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Private Individuals Can Buy Blocks Of Shares"]

[Text] More than 70 percent of the property of oblast- and federal-owned enterprises in Rostov Oblast has now been privatized. A large part of the population's vouchers has been invested in check investment funds and joint-stock companies. Another four check auctions are to be held in the oblast before 30 June, at which shares in promising enterprises, including military industrial complex enterprises, will appear. The subscription deadline for "Gazprom" shares has been extended.

The oblast State Property Committee believes that the question of the number of owners is now a secondary one. The main thing now is to consider their quality. From 1 July any Russian firm or private individual can buy blocks of shares belonging to the state. They have already started to sell them in Rostov, without waiting for the end of the maximum three-year period during which the state remains co-owner.

International Affairs

Tatarstan Opens Representation in Crimea

Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1703 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Mikhail Stetsyuk for TASS]

[Text] Sevastopol 5 July TASS—Tatarstan has opened its representation in the Crimea. The opening ceremony in Sevastopol was attended by a delegation headed by Tatarstan Prime Minister Mohamad Sabirov.

The premier said that this action will boost the development of horizontal relations between subjects of the Russian Federation and Ukraine. He noted it is not a political but trade-economic office to help mutually beneficial cooperation in the industry, culture, science, and other economic branches.

An agreement on trade, economic and technical cooperation between Tatarstan and Sevastopol has been signed as well.

Foreign Ministry Hosts Talks on Black Sea Problems

AU0507165594 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 2 Jul 94 p 2

[Report by the Press Center of Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "Multilateral Consultations"]

[Text] Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 28-30 June held multilateral consultations on implementing the Ukrainian presidential initiative on questions of strengthening confidence, security, and cooperation in the naval sphere among coastal Black Sea countries.

Representatives of Bulgaria (as observers), Russian Federation, Romania, Turkey, and Russia took part in the consultations.

Following a conceptual discussion of possible approaches to the implementation of Ukraine's initiative, it was decided to continue studying the question of elaborating a joint document that would specify measures for strengthening confidence in the Black Sea naval sphere.

Ukraine Interested in Developing Cooperation With G-7

LD0507141194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Ukraine is interested in the development of cooperation with G-7 countries and is grateful for aid in some spheres of the economy, finance and industry, says a press-release of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry concerning the meeting of the G-7 leaders in Naples on cooperation with Ukraine.

It says that Ukraine needs the aid of international financial organizations to create a stabilizing fund for a new national monetary unit. The Ukrainian leadership believes this could come in the form of credits from G-7 banks for the restructuring of the economy and could be covered by future exports of Ukrainian products.

Ukraine also needs assistance in terms of investments for the materialization of concrete conversion programs. Ukraine hopes for the G-7's technical and financial assistance in dealing with the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster, in raising safety standards at nuclear reactors and in supplying them with fuel.

Deputy Says Only Force Could Reunite Former USSR

LD0507174794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1508 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] There is no other way but force to reunite the former republics of the Soviet Union, Les Tanyuk, Ukrainian deputy, member of the RUKh party, told INTERFAX-Ukraine.

The agency asked him to comment on U.S. President Bill Clinton's remarks that some former USSR republics could reunite on a democratic and legal basis.

Tanyuk said that there was not a republic that would return into what he called captivity without a military conflict.

Chairman of the Ukrainian parliament's Judiciary Committee Vladimir Stretovich said that the 91.2 percent of Ukrainians who had voted for independence in 1991 would have to be polled now to make a democratic reunification possible.

Germany Offers Cooperation With Ukrainian Armed Forces

LD0507124794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Cooperation between the defense departments of Ukraine and Germany, as well as Ukraine's participation in the NATO program Partnership for Peace were discussed in Kiev on 4 July at the talks between Ukrainian Defense Minister Vitaliy Radetskyy and State Secretary of the German Defense Ministry Jorg Schonbom.

According to Schonbom, the two sides reached an understanding that Germany will provide Ukraine over 4,000 Mercedes trucks.

In addition, Germany has set aside, free, 12 [metric] tonnes of pharmaceuticals for medical establishments of the Ukrainian armed forces. Ukraine has already received two tonnes of them.

The two sides also exchanged views on logistical support for peacekeeping operations. Schonbom met with deputy Ukrainian Defense Minister Colonel General Grigoriy

Mikhailichenko, and the acting chief of the Ukrainian General Staff, Gennadiy Gurin.

A spokesman for the Ukrainian Defense Ministry told INTERFAX-Ukraine that in September, within the framework of Partnership for Peace program, Poland is to be the venue for joint military exercises of the armed forces of Poland, Ukraine, and Germany.

A delegation of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry is expected to visit Germany in October.

Parliament's Letter to G-7 on Chernobyl Closure Issues

LD0507164394 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Letter from Ukrainian Parliament to G-7 heads of state, read out to parliament session by Deputy Speaker Oleksandr Tkachenko—live]

[Text] To the G-7 heads of state. Esteemed gentlemen: We, representatives of the people of Ukraine, gratefully acknowledge the fact that the heads of the world's seven leading countries intend to discuss at their next meeting in Naples on 8 July mutually beneficial cooperation with Ukraine and the granting of economic aid, including aid to solve problems concerning the elimination of the aftermath of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

We are glad that the European Union is willing to allocate 500 million European currency units for this purpose. Eight years after the day of the world's worst disaster, this will be practically the first significant contribution from the European Community to tackling this problem, which is common to all of us. This is a concrete response to the initiatives of the president, the Supreme Council, and the government of Ukraine in this respect.

Sensible people in Ukraine and abroad understand that the Chernobyl nuclear plant which has caused so much grief must be shut down. However, we are convinced that a balanced approach and well-considered preparatory measures are necessary in order to phase out the station's functioning power units. We must not allow rash action, because we are talking about hundreds of thousands of people whose fate is linked to the work of the plant. We hope that all issues related to the nuclear installations in Chernobyl and their closure will not be treated as measures of local importance, but as part of a comprehensive international program which, with proper organization, will allow Ukraine to safely eliminate the aftermath of the catastrophe with the help of other countries and to prevent proliferation of the Chernobyl disaster.

The Ukrainian side is prepared to take active part in the preparation and implementation of an appropriate international program which would include organizational, technical, economic, social, and environmental issues. Undoubtedly, considering the exclusive nature of such a program, it would be implemented under the supervision of the Ukrainian Supreme Council.

[Signed] Oleksandr Moroz, chairman of the Supreme Council of Ukraine

Agreement With IAEA on Nuclear Materials

LD0507195794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1838 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] During negotiations in Vienna on 27-28 June, a delegation of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry and the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Authority] finalized the text of a draft agreement on IAEA guarantees on all nuclear materials used in Ukraine for peaceful purposes.

INTERFAX-Ukraine was told at a briefing at the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry in Kiev Tuesday that the draft agreement which had been already adjusted by Ukraine would not extend IAEA control over nuclear materials contained in the nuclear weapons remaining in Ukraine.

Ukrainian representatives pointed out that Ukraine saw the agreement with the IAEA as one of the main steps to achieving a nuclear-free status.

If the IAEA Managing Board approves the draft agreement, it may be signed at the 38th IAEA General Conference on 19-23 September 1994.

National Affairs

Crimean Parliament Confirms Separatist Intentions

AU0507152794 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 2 Jul 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Crimean Parliament Threatens To Hold a Referendum"]

[Text] The [Crimean] parliament on Thursday [30 June] adopted a decree, which reads that, on its territory, the Crimean leadership exercises all powers, except those it voluntarily delegates to Ukraine.

"However," goes on the document, the Supreme Council and the Ukrainian president, in violation of Ukraine's law 'On the Division of Powers Among the State Power Bodies of Ukraine and the Crimea' (in the 30 June 1992 variant) and without coordination with the Crimean Supreme Council, laws, decrees, and edicts are being adopted that are at variance with the Constitution of the Crimean Republic and with the said Ukrainian law. This leads to a destabilization of the situation and is aimed at abolishing the Crimean statehood." Among these documents, the Crimean Parliament quoted the Ukrainian presidential edicts on forming the main administrations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ukraine's Security Service, and the Ministry of Justice on the territory of the Crimea and also alterations and supplements to the laws on the militia and on the division of powers among

the power bodies of Ukraine and the Crimea that were recently adopted by Ukraine's Supreme Council. All the above acts were deemed legally invalid and ineffective on the territory of the [Crimean] Republic.

A statement was sent to Ukraine's Supreme Council with a demand that the main administration of Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Crimea be stopped and negotiations continued between delegations of the two parliaments. If these demands are not met, the republic's Supreme Council threatened to lift the moratorium on the referendum regarding the status of the Crimean state.

A temporary deputies commission for issues of control over the activity of internal affairs bodies was created.

Crimean Democrats Attack Crimea's Agrarian Policy

LD0207174494 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1350 GMT 2 Jul 94

[Text] Simferopol, 2 Jul—The Democratic Party of Crimea has issued a statement in connection with the agrarian policy of the Government of the Republic of Crimea that was recently approved by the Supreme Council of Crimea. In the opinion of Anatoliy Filatov, the chairman of this party, the program "puts an end to private farming in Crimea," because the state regulation of agriculture contradicts the idea of private ownership of land. Mr. Filatov stressed that the methodological principles set out in the above program run contrary to the goals its declares.

Talks With Crimea To Resume After Election

LD0507200494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1838 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Talks between the parliamentary delegations of Ukraine and Crimea will resume after the presidential elections in Ukraine scheduled for 10 July.

This statement was made by Crimean Deputy Speaker Aleksey Melnikov in an interview with INTERFAX in Simferopol Tuesday [5 July].

Melnikov is leaving for Kiev on July 6 to meet Ukrainian Speaker Aleksandr Moroz and other Ukrainian leaders. He said he would defend Crimea's statehood at meetings of all levels.

INTERFAX-Ukraine learned from a source close to the Crimean president that Yuriy Meshkov visited Kiev on 4 July. He is currently on a visit in the West.

Changes to Crimean Interior Ministry Viewed

WS0607074594 Kiev IMENEM ZAKONU in Ukrainian 24 Jun 94 p 3

[Interview with Valeriy Chernyshov, Ukrainian deputy interior minister and chief of the Interior Ministry's Main Directorate of Internal Affairs in the Crimea, by O. Mashchenko; place and date not given: "Crimean Residents and Visitors Should Be Assured of Their Security"]

[Text] [Mashchenko] Could you tell our readers some personal details about the head of the Crimean militia?

[Chernyshov] I am Crimean—I was born and raised here. I am Russian by nationality. Out of 22 years of service, 14 were devoted to my native peninsula, where I served at different operational and administration posts in the Bakhchisaray and Belogorsk rayon departments. I was recently deputy chief of the department of criminal investigations and the first deputy chief of the Main Directorate of Criminal Investigations of Ukraine's Interior Ministry.

[Mashchenko] Could you dissipate some of the rumors surrounding the reorganization of Crimea's Interior Ministry into the Main Directorate of Internal Affairs, and explain to our readers on which basis such a resolution was adopted?

[Chernyshov] I would like to note at the outset that, while creating Crimea's Main Directorate of Internal Affairs, we have not violated any legislative act in force, neither Crimean nor Ukrainian. According to Article 114-5 item 7 of Ukraine's Constitution, the president of the state has the right to create, reorganize, and abolish ministries, departments, and other bodies of executive power on Ukrainian territory. Therefore, the reorganization of Crimea's Interior Ministry into the Main Directorate of Internal Affairs (it was a reorganization, not a "dispersal," as some politicians claim) is a prerogative of the Ukrainian president.

President Kravchuk's edict of 18 May 1994 is a completely legal document. The main reason for this step was the crime-breeding situation in the Republic of Crimea, which has been extremely grave these last few years. Quite fresh are the memories of a number of bloody crimes committed with the use of automatic weapons. The reorganization of Crimea's Ministry of Internal Affairs was also prompted by the fact that certain subdepartments in the autonomous republic, such as sea and railway patrols, were actually directed not by Crimea's Interior Ministry, but by centers in Kiev and other Ukrainian cities. By now, the coordination of all law enforcement bodies in the Crimea will be carried out by Crimea's Main Directorate of Internal Affairs. Control over the militia will be carried out with strict adherence to the letter of law. With regard to the nomination of General Major Kuznetsov for the nonexisting post of interior minister, it was accomplished through a gross violation of legislative acts in force.

[Mashchenko] Valeriy Serafimovich, what can you say about Gen. Maj. Kuznetsov's management of interior affairs on the peninsula?

[Chernyshov] Mr. Kuznetsov is surely an ambitious man. It should be noted that, however, that in the first place leading posts require high quality specialists who

know their job well. V. Kuznetsov, general major in the reserve, has no special qualifications. He is not a lawyer and, having no work experience in law enforcement bodies, he is incapable of adopting legal and rightful resolutions under the current circumstances. This is not through any fault of his own.

[Mashchenko] A conclusion inevitably comes to mind—Gen. Maj. Kuznetsov is a political figure. Apparently, certain forces prefer namely this pensioned general, not a professional, to head this power ministry. To what may this lead?

[Chernyshov] You know, there is a saying that all catches are good in political struggle. The incompetence of Reserve Gen. Maj. Kuznetsov may, not only in the future but today as well, trigger—and this is putting it mildly—incautious steps. For example, let us take his instruction of 21 May on equipping the personnel of the reorganized ministry and Crimea's bodies of internal affairs with automatic weapons and armored vests. Next, he ordered the arrest of unarmed servicemen from Ukraine's National Guard, who were patrolling the area surrounding the Simferopol Television and Radio Center, as well as to put buildings of the Crimean Supreme Council, banks, military registration and enlistment offices, and other important facilities under doubled guard. This grave resolution by Mr. Kuznetsov was provoked by unconfirmed (!)—but speaking openly—false information. It was not difficult to predict what consequences might have followed the activities of "Berkut" troopers armed with automatic weapons in the center of Simferopol.

The worst was prevented only owing to the self-control of militia and Ukrainian National Guard men. I want to emphasize that it is necessary to clearly differentiate between the leadership of law enforcement units, which are performing their duty in protecting civic order and combating crime, and the leadership of troops, whose task is to conduct warfare.

[Mashchenko] Valeriy Serafimovich, you, as a professional, are obliged to trust only hard facts. However, let me ask you a question which takes its origin from a rumor. The rumor has it that the financing of Crimea's internal affairs bodies will be cut off, and there will be a personnel reshuffle and reduction. Is this true?

[Chernyshov] I state with all my authority that this is a provocative lie. The flow of funds from Ukraine's Interior Ministry has not been halted. The Main Directorate of Internal Affairs in the Crimea has already opened its account and is being financed in the amount necessary to safeguard its normal operation. The payment of remuneration and other charges for workers of the Crimean militia are being accomplished to the full extent possible.

There will be no ungrounded changes in personnel. I will not allow any political retribution in the militia.

The aim of those disseminating such disinformation is quite clear: to provoke an unhealthy and nervous atmosphere within the internal affairs bodies. They try to incite the personnel against legal resolutions by Ukraine's president, Cabinet of Ministers, and Ministry of Internal Affairs. There is a resolution by Ukraine's Interior Ministry Collegium on the above-mentioned issues. It states unequivocally that the personal roster of the former Interior Ministry of the Crimea will be preserved to the full extent in the structure of Crimea's Main Directorate of Internal Affairs. Former ranks and salaries will also be preserved.

The personal roster of Crimea's Main Directorate of Internal Affairs does not provide only for the posts of minister and deputy ministers of internal affairs. As before, all the militia workers are entitled to social protection as envisioned by legislation in force.

In conclusion, using this opportunity I would like to appeal to all workers of internal affairs bodies and residents of the Republic of Crimea. I perfectly understand the difficult situation in which you have found yourselves, when the militia is held hostage to someone's political ambitions to make the choice: To whom should it be subordinated? We should do everything possible to prevent law enforcement bodies from entering political games. As earlier, they should remain calm and reserved.

Our primary task today is to work expansively and purposefully to strengthen the fight against crime as well as the detection and prevention of organized criminal groups. Our citizens and visitors to the Crimea should be assured of their security.

Meshkov Aide on Crimean Policy Toward Kiev

PM0607084794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Jul 94 First Edition p 2

[Interview with Vladimir Demin, assistant to Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov, by Boris Glebov; place and date not given: "Is Crimea a Stumbling Block?"]

[Text] [Glebov] Vladimir Timofeyevich, what is the political situation in Crimea today, at the time of the presidential election in Ukraine?

[Demin] I am more concerned today not about Crimean politics but economics, since political problems are directly linked with economic problems: the production slump, plant stoppages, this summer's unfavorable weather conditions for agriculture (in the northern part of the peninsula the entire crop has been burned out—an unprecedented drought).... In Crimea now there is practically nothing to feed to livestock, which is having to be slaughtered, and it will take at least four years to restore the numbers.

The Crimean economy today is being stifled by the lack of money in circulation (those very Ukrainian karbovanets about which so much was said in Kiev). This is why, despite everything, the Russian ruble is, all the

same, circulating underground in Crimea alongside the dollar and the German mark.

[Glebov] What is the essence of the conflict between President Meshkov and the Crimean parliament?

[Demin] There is no conflict as such between the president and parliament of Crimea. Crimean President Meshkov enjoys the respect and trust of the entire Crimean people, while the heated situation is being stoked by the press and is connected exclusively with the internal factional struggle among the People's Party, the Republican Movement of Crimea, and the Republican Party of Crimea, which all used to belong to the "Rossiya" election bloc.

In addition to parliament, however, the political situation on the peninsula is also being stoked from outside, and this was manifested particularly after Ukrainian President Kravchuk's well-known statement on the possibility of resettling to Crimea 600,000 (!) ethnic Crimean Tatars from present-day Turkey. Kravchuk gave the Turkish president a personal promise to promote such re-emigration to Crimea during Demirel's recent visit to Kiev.

Such steps by Kiev are fueling the political situation on the peninsula. In general, a quiet war of edicts is now taking place in Crimea: President Meshkov issues an edict, President Kravchuk at once repeals it.... We set up our own Crimean MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs], and the Ukrainian MVD Main Administration for Crimea is at once set up (the administration is directly subordinate to Kiev). The same thing with the Security Service's administration in Crimea, etc....

All Crimean rayon and city militia departments are subordinate to the head of the Crimean MVD—Major General Valeriy Kuznetsov, who was appointed to this post by the Crimean president personally.

Kiev sends its own directives directly to the peninsula's rayon and city militia departments, at the same time ignoring both Gen. Kuznetsov and the Crimean MVD itself. There is an obvious dyarchy in the power structures of the Republic of Crimea. Of course, there is nothing good in this.

[Glebov] Could you say a little about the referendum on the status of Sevastopol?

[Demin] It is high time to decide on the status of Sevastopol. Sevastopol is a city of Russian glory and was from the beginning Russia's outpost in the south of the country, and, finally, it is necessary to enshrine in legislation the desire of the city's residents to see Sevastopol a Russian naval base. The people's will must be fulfilled.

None of the city folk wants either to fight or to be involved in a conflict, and all wish simply for a normal human existence.

The Crimean leadership now endeavors, in principle, not to provide grounds for a confrontation with Kiev, and we seek to build friendly ties with both Ukraine and Russia. All people of Sevastopol and all people of Crimea wish for one thing: for Crimea not to be a stumbling block but a connecting link—a bridge between Russia and Ukraine—and the cement which will unite our Slav peoples.

When the Issue Was Being Made Up...

The crime situation in Crimea intensified noticeably over the weekend: There were five big explosions in Sevastopol Sunday night, which caused panic among the population.

Fortunately, this time there were no casualties, but persons unknown blew up a private car showroom, the "Church Bank," a department store, and two restaurants. All the enterprises that were hit belong to the "Dom Kondratenkovykh" Joint-Stock Company, whose proprietor is the well-known Crimean entrepreneur Sergey Shuriga.

The Crimean militia leadership assumes that all these explosions are the result of criminal vendettas among local mafia clans. Incidentally, staffers of the Sevastopol Internal Affairs Administration succeeded in preventing a sixth explosion by rendering harmless in time a bomb placed in the "Okean" Store belonging to the same "Dom Kondratenkovykh" Joint-Stock Company.

While Kiev and Simferopol are dividing up the local militia apparatus, the staffers of this very apparatus plainly are not concerned about problems in their own jurisdiction—to be in time to render harmless one more explosive device.

Black Sea Fleet Repair Works Joins Naval Forces

LD0207160494 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1350 GMT 2 Jul 94

[Text] Sevastopol, 2 Jul—In compliance with the instructions by the chief of general staff of Ukraine's armed forces, the Black Sea Fleet repair work directorate No. 363 has been included in the composition of the naval forces of Ukraine. This decision was made because the workforce of two repair-and-construction sections of this directorate held a general meeting 27 June at which they decided to appeal to the leadership of Ukraine's naval forces with a request to include their enterprises in the composition of the naval forces of Ukraine. Eighty-eight of the 97 employees of the repair-and-construction directorate section No. 1966, stationed in Nikolayev, and 56 of the 61 employees of the repair-and-construction department section No. 213 voted in favor of such a resolution. The employees explain their decision to transfer to the jurisdiction of the naval forces of Ukraine by the difficult financial situation arising from the fact that the Black to 1.369 million karbovantsi, and also by real prospects for losing their jobs after the planned reduction of these enterprises.

This was reported by the press centre of the naval forces of Ukraine.

Moroz Denies Favoring Either of Two Candidates

AU0507114294 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 1 Jul 94 p 1

["Statement" by chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council Oleksandr Moroz: "Esteemed Citizens of Ukraine"]

[Text] I want to sincerely thank all those people who voted for my candidacy for the post of Ukrainian president on 26 June 1994.

The presidential elections are not yet over and, for that reason, it would be premature to draw conclusions on the election campaign.

At the same time, I cannot help answering one question, which remains, in one form or another, a subject of various fabrications and provocations to the effect that there allegedly exists an intention on my part or an accord with one of the two presidential candidates, who have emerged upon the second round of voting, to orient my voters in favor of one of them.

I want to reiterate once again: No such intentions exist or could exist, not to mention any such accords. As chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council and, therefore, the top official of the state's legislative body, I am obliged to adhere to the requirement of the election law on the unbiased attitude toward any of the registered candidates.

I am sure that Ukraine's citizens will be able to make the right choice proceeding from their own convictions, experience, and interests.

Opinion Poll Shows Legislature Lacks Popularity

WS0507125094 Kiev VECHIRNIY KYYIV in Ukrainian 1 Jul 94 p 2

[Report attributed to the sociological office of the "Democratic Initiatives" center: "Public Opinion"]

[Text] Between late May and early June, the sociological office of the "Democratic Initiatives" center, along with the Institute of Sociology at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and the sociological service "Sotsis," conducted a poll of the Republic's inhabitants devoted to the pressing issues of Ukraine's sociopolitical and economic development. This poll was conducted within the framework of the "Political Portrait of Ukraine" program and opened the research study "Ukrainian Society at the Beginning of the 21st Century" conducted by the Institute of Sociology.

Some 1,807 residents of all Ukrainian oblasts representing all social and demographic categories were polled.

What are your general impressions of the new Supreme Council?		
Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Rather positive	203	11 percent
Rather negative	375	21 percent
Undecided on the issue	1,202	67 percent
Would you vote for the same candidate for Supreme Council?		
Yes	769	43 percent
Not sure	379	21 percent
No	239	13 percent
Did not vote at all	359	29 percent
Could you state that the Supreme Council deputy for whom you voted will be able to protect your interests in the legislature?		
Yes	414	23 percent
Not sure	603	33 percent
No	227	13 percent
I do not know him	380	21 percent
No deputy was elected in our constituency	151	8 percent

The fact that after the first days of work of the newly elected Supreme Council, 75 percent of the population could not define their attitude toward it can hardly take us by surprise. The division of voters who demonstrated their attitude toward the Supreme Council is, however, symptomatic. The number of those who specified their position is two times as high as the number of those who were dissatisfied with the work of the legislature.

Such division of assessments does not guarantee the support of the majority of voters of the new legislature if it is going to move along the path of the previous legislature. A great number of deputies have not yet managed to properly begin their work, however, a considerable number of our voters are not sure about the correctness of their choice. Some one-fourth of voters are still convinced that deputies can protect their interests in the legislature.

Given these figures, we can convincingly state that our current Supreme Council will not outscore the previous one in popularity if it continues going along the similar path of socioeconomic and political reforms.

Deputies To Request Review of Trilateral Disarmament Pact

WS0507150194 Kiev KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI in Russian 30 Jun 94 p 3

[Report by Maryana Oleynik: "Parliamentary Commissions Will Soon Discuss Revision of Ukraine's Nuclear Disarmament Concept"]

[Text] A group of nationally and democratically oriented deputies intends to ask the legislative Commission for Foreign Affairs and CIS Relations to raise the issue of

revising the tripartite declaration signed by the U.S., Ukrainian, and Russian presidents, with the Ukrainian president and Foreign Ministry. This was reported to an INTERFAX-UKRAINE correspondent by Aleksandr Shondryuk, member of this commission.

In case it is proven that Russia and the United States have failed to comply with the declaration's provisions, the deputy said, the Supreme Council will consider suspending transportation of nuclear missiles from Ukraine. It is possible, the legislator conceded, that the issue will be put as radically as to demand revision of what he called the "very spirit in which the presidents' declaration and other Ukrainian commitments were made."

Oleh Vitovych from the Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian National Self-Defense believes that the nuclear disarmament of Ukraine should be conducted simultaneously with that of other countries. At the same time, the deputy said, negotiations should be initiated not only with Russia and the United States, but also with other states that either have nuclear arms or conduct research in this field.

According to the declaration by the presidents of Ukraine, the United States, and Russia signed this January in Moscow, Ukraine is to remove all of nuclear weapons from its territory in exchange for fuel for its nuclear power stations. The United States committed itself to provide financial assistance for processing radioactive material contained in warheads into fuel elements for nuclear stations. Russia and the United States confirmed their adherence to the principle of Ukraine's territorial integrity.

Over the last winter and spring, two trainloads of nuclear arms left Ukraine. In exchange for this, the Zaporozhye nuclear station received one trainload of nuclear fuel.

Kravchuk Says Reforms Should Continue

LD0607053794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0527 GMT 6 Jul 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnik]

[Text] Kiev 6 July TASS—Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk said late on Tuesday [5 July] that in case he is reelected at 10 July polls he would continue political and economic reforms in the country.

"If I become the president I will continue the policy aimed at reforms, peace and accord, good-neighbourly relations and mutually benefitial cooperation with all countries," he said on the national radio.

"The main thing at present is to solve social and economic problems, to do everything possible for the transition to a market economy. This can be fulfilled only in conditions of a political stability in society," he stressed. To ensure the stability it is necessary to legally share the powers of authorities, to adopt a law on the government fix the rights of local authorities, according to Kravchuk who urged the parliament to pass such laws.

"I shall do eveything so that there is no contrapposition in top echelons of authority, so that all branches of power work for the benefit of independent Ukraine," he added.

Kravchuk said that Ukrainian sovereignty gave the people "a noble feeling of citizenship, responsibility for their land, for their state, the present and the future."

The president stated that equal rights are enjoyed by all nationalities in Ukraine and called on other former Soviet republics to follow suit.

"I can state with full responsibility that nobody in Ukraine experiences cultural, language, ethnic or political limitations. People feel equal on our land," he said adding that "if every state of the former Soviet Union conducts the same policy and Ukrainians living outside our state are free and equal as it happens in Ukraine, it would be unnecessary to raise the nationality issue at all."

Dwelling on international relations, Kravchuk said is it necessary "to conduct such a policy which goes along with international principles, promotes peace and stability on the planet. Constructive decisions should be looked for by means of dialogue and negotiations," he said.

"Ukraine is a big country, a democratically-oriented country which is to be taken into account and respected," he stressed.

Donbass Miners' Strike Spreads

LD0507175494 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Donbass miners' strike is spreading. INTERFAX reports that on Tuesday [5 July] the strike by coal miners of the Ordzhonikidzeugol [Ordzhonikidze coal] Association in Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine was joined by three sections of the Stakhanov mine and one section of the Tsentralnaya mine of the Krasnoarmeyskugol [Krasnoarmeysk coal] Association.

The miners' strike began on 28 June. They are demanding their back pay and also the sacking of the director of the Ordzhonikidzeugol Association.

Kravchuk on Union With Russia, Language Problem

AU0507164594 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 2 Jul 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Leonid Kravchuk Believes That the Voters in the East and the South Were Deceived"]

[Text] "How can you explain the loss of confidence in Ukraine's southeastern oblasts?" the Ukrainian president was asked by members of the Press Club at a meeting on Thursday [30 June].

"What happened there is this," explained Leonid Makarovych [Kravchuk]. "At the level of political parties and movements, the people were recommended to vote for politics and not for economic reforms. Certain forces did everything in order to misrepresent the positions of the president and the Supreme Council. The people are deceived in the East, as they also are in the West. For example, there are assertions to the effect that Kravchuk is against a union with Russia. I would like to know when and where I said that. I am in favor of an equal union between the two states on principles of partnership and do not support such a union in which we would lose this equality or independence. The people's position has not changed either. I have signed more than 70 accords and agreements with Russia. After all that, I am against a union with Russia?! It is true though that some politicians in the West already regard this as a betrayal of Ukraine.

Leonid Makarovych made no comment on the following question: Do you believe that [presidential candidate Leonid] Kuchma presents a threat to Ukraine's independence?

The president made a clear statement on the language problem:

"I am in favor of two official languages—Ukrainian and Russian. However, we have a single state and a single state language."

The dialogue with correspondents continued for one and a half hours. In its course, many interesting and topical problems were raised.

Belarus

Kebich Assesses First Round of Elections

WS0507131594 Minsk RESPUBLIKA in Russian 30 Jun 94 p 2

[News conference by Belarusian Prime Minister Vyachaslaw Kebich with unidentified reporters in Minsk on 27 June]

[Text] [Reporter] Vyachaslaw Frantsevich, you said that, taking into account the Russian leadership's standpoint, the agreement on unification of our monetary systems will soon be signed. What is that standpoint, and how long are we to wait for the agreement to be signed?

[Kebich] The standpoint of the Russian leadership is that this process drags on, which was noted during my 22 June meeting with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin. Russia has admitted that, and it believes that it has not taken steps decisive enough to expedite the conclusion of our economic union. Therefore, we have discussed stages needed to resolve this issue, and taking into account yesterday's conversation with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, we will expedite the signing of this agreement as a whole. This should take place, quite literally, in the near future.

[Reporter] Which members of the government will be dismissed?

[Kebich] Certain people were already dismissed today at a meeting of the Council of Ministers Presidium, for instance, Petrov, deputy chairman of the light industry corporation. Documents concerning three deputy ministers have already been handed over to the Attorney General's Office, and dismissals of other ministers will be announced tomorrow.

[Reporter] Is the option—Lukashenka as president, Kebich as prime minister—admissible to you?

[Kebich] I think that the presidency is not an issue of street market bargaining. This is an issue of political significance, and it should be resolved by the people.

[Reporter] Are you going to continue battling for the presidential chair?

[Kebich] I said in my statement that I will fight until the end.

[Reporter] What mistakes did your team make in the first round of presidential elections?

[Kebich] Our mistakes were as follows: I appeared too often on television. Although I had personally declared that I would not offend presidential candidates, our team allowed similar acts, which, obviously, did not play into our hands. What is probably the most important thing, is that we relied on bureaucratic, authoritative methods in our work with the people, the voters, and this should not have taken place.

[Reporter] On whom do you currently count?

[Kebich] I count on people with common sense, and they are in the majority.

[Reporter] At his latest news conference, Lukashenka promised to summon ministers who are responsible for crucial areas and assign specific tasks to them. Is he entitled to do that?

[Kebich] He will only be entitled to do that if he becomes president. Otherwise, no one will fall in line with him, and in my opinion, these were just naive wishes.

[Reporter] I would like to make it clear: Does it mean that the winter will be quiet under President Kebich, but under someone else there will be certain difficulties?

[Kebich] I did not say that. You misunderstood me. I said that we should currently think how to harvest crops and survive the winter. Who is able to answer this question now? Regardless of the president, the government fulfills its responsibilities, and it should be responsible for getting us into winter with everything essential for a normal life.

[Reporter] Is the signing of the Belarusian-Russian agreement possible during Chernomyrdin's visit to Minsk in early July?

[Kebich] I do not rule out such a possibility.

[Reporter] Certain presidential candidates presented their government members as early as before the first round of voting. Could you name your people?

[Kebich] Many of them have already buried their governments. I have in mind these four candidates who came in third to sixth places in the first round. I do not want my people to encounter a similar fate in the event of my defeat.

[Reporter] Nevertheless, do you have such people?

[Kebich] Yes.

[Reporter] Do you not think that the election served as a vote of nonconfidence in the government?

[Kebich] Why do you think that this was a no-confidence vote in the government? I do not think so. The people did not vote for Kebich alone, they voted for six presidential candidates. Therefore, this cannot be termed a no-confidence vote in the government. This cannot be termed a vote of nonconfidence in the Popular Front either. Although each one of us received a certain number of votes, it does not mean that a vote of nonconfidence was expressed toward those who were without luck.

[Reporter] However, this is what Lukashenka claims.

[Kebich] That is his business.

[Reporter] Does it make sense to dismiss ministers now, if, perhaps, the same lot will fall upon the entire cabinet in three or four months?

[Kebich] This is a very good question. Perhaps I would not have made significant reshuffles. Why should I dismiss cabinet members if government members will be replaced anyway? Unfortunately, the people did not understand this.

I am not going to dismiss everybody, but those who have compromised themselves must be removed, including those who committed gross errors during the presidential campaign.

[Reporter] Do you intend to replace the managers of certain newspapers?

[Kebich] I think that it must not be done. The media do not currently need any replacement of their management. This would be considered by the people as an attempt by the current leadership to put additional pressure on the media. I would not address this issue in such a way.

[Reporter] At his news conference, Lukashenka stated that he had invited a member of the current government to assume the office of prime minister. In this regard, I would like to ask you whether defections from your team to Lukashenka's have already begun? I also have another question: Will the "Belaruskaya Maladzyozhnaya" and "Krynitsa" radio studios be reopened, and will the regulations for publishing SVABODA be changed?

[Kebich] You are very concerned over this SVABODA [FREEDOM], where there is no freedom of the press. I want to state that I have not made any decision regarding these publications. Yet, I will take advantage of the current temporary respite, and I will analyze issues concerning the aforementioned studios. As for SVABODA, it is still being published. I regularly receive every issue of this paper. I do not know who banned it.

Regarding the migratory birds, there are, of course, birds which like to live in warmer climates. I do not worry about this. Regarding Lukashenka's statement that he will nominate one of the ministers for the office of prime minister, however, I believe that he should first find out whether these ministers give their consent to assume this office.

[Reporter] Why have you begun to remove corrupted officials right now? Has this been made in light of completely new materials, or was everything well known long ago? If this is the case, then why has this process begun right now? There is another question: You stated that your closest entourage was overzealous in the election campaign. Does that mean all these people are out of control, and that they are not accountable to you?

[Kebich] I will begin with the second question. First of all, it was the media which did me wrong. I want to again emphasize that there was no pressure from my part.

Regarding the people we dismissed, I would like to emphasize that I have not removed, nor can I do so, a single man accused by Lukashenka. The people we dismissed today committed completely different sins, which were disclosed during investigations conducted by the Economic Control Department.

[Reporter] What do you think was the reason behind Lukashenka's success in the first round?

[Kebich] I would not like to argue about this. Let the people determine this.

[Reporter] Vyacheslaw Frantsevich, which member of your team concocted the episode with the "Chinese" stewardess?

[Kebich] I have not yet learned.

[Reporter] What will be your first edict if you become president?

[Kebich] It will be an edict concerning the fight against crime.

[Reporter] You stated that you will wage a decisive battle against crime and corruption in the period between the two rounds of elections. What do you suggest be done?

[Kebich] We will simply implement appropriate legislation adopted by the Supreme Soviet. Yes, there will be patrols. Perhaps street stands and kiosks, which have been set up illegally, will be wiped off the streets. We will fight speculation on street markets and stores. We will take under control the practice of buying products in stores and selling them at street markets or abroad. There is a very wide range of measures.

[Reporter] You stated that you have contacts with Chernomyrdin. Can you tell what is Moscow's reaction to the election results?

[Kebich] They are also surprised by developments.

[Reporter] What do you think your chances will be if the second round is held?

[Kebich] I believe that if the results of the first round are not announced, neither Kebich nor Lukashenka will have any chance. What will be happen later—we will see.

[Reporter] Prices for certain goods have recently been lowered. At the expense of what are you going to compensate for the lack of funds?

[Kebich] I am going to do that at the expense of the fact that our enterprises will work better after unification with Russia, and budget revenues will be higher.

[Reporter] Before the election, you visited Austria. Who invited you on that trip?

[Kebich] I visited Austria at the official invitation of Chancellor Vranitzky. A document on a $100 million loan was signed by Austrian Chancellor Vranitzky and Belarusian Prime Minister Kebich.

[Reporter] Is another price increase expected, and if so, on which products?

[Kebich] No price increase is expected.

[Reporter] You must agree that populist methods are the most effective in the current electoral campaign. Are you not going to use them?

[Kebich] No, in any case. I cannot resort to populist methods, even though I know I am losing. I am losing in two aspects. First of all, I cannot shed the burden of responsibility for what has happened. Second, I cannot be a populist.

[Reporter] Will you boycott a runoff election?

[Kebich] I am an obedient citizen and man. The law says that canvassing for a boycott of the elections is prohibited. Therefore, I will not do that, and I will not allow any of my associates to so either.

[Reporter] You stated that economics begins to rule over politics. Do you believe that the government has done everything possible to stabilize the economy?

[Kebich] There are no sinless governments. We have made certain mistakes. I would like to say, however, that we have done everything to prevent a total economic collapse. We have done everything so that living standards do not fall below the level, under which a man cannot exist. We have not lost control over the economy, and we have defended socially unprotected sectors of society. After all, we have not made life in Belarus worse than that of our neighbors.

BNF Berates Kebich, Lukashenka; Will Boycott Elections

WS0507134194 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 0700 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Belarusian Popular Front [BNF] Council has released an appeal to the voters. "The results of the first round of presidential elections in our country," reads the appeal, "confirmed the political fiasco of Kebich's nomenklatura- and Mafia-like pro-Moscow regime. Despite a furious propaganda campaign, administrative pressure, and open threats, the majority of the electorate voted against the government candidate. Nevertheless, a great many people, having understood the malevolence of policies conducted by Kebich and his government, did not vote for a creative, constructive way out of the current crisis, instead choosing to follow the populist words and scandalous popularity of Alyaksandr Lukashenka. Our citizens were not able to see the same Mafia-like nomenklatura, perhaps only younger and more aggressive, looming through Lukashenka's blatant promises."

In the opinion of the BNF Council, "if Lukashenka is elected president of Belarus, the economic ruin and transfer of our country's independence to the Russian and Belarusian Mafia will continue." "The Popular Front," the appeal reads, "stands against both Kebich and Lukashenka. In the second round of elections, we will vote for neither the old nor the new nomenklatura. BNF will not participate in this election without alternative, which will lead Belarus to into an abyss."

Social Democrats To Boycott Second Round of Elections

WS0507134294 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 0700 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Belarusian Social Democratic Assembly Central Council has come forward with a statement, in which it describes the results of the first round of presidential elections as "rejection of the Kebich government's course by the majority of people" on the one hand, and as "not understanding of reasons behind the deep economic crisis and ways out of it" on the other. The statement appeals to all Belarusian citizens to support neither of the two presidential candidates in the second round. "We believe that the programs of both Kebich and Lukashenka offer no realistic and civilized approaches to economic reforms and state-building processes," the authors of the statement say, and they announce that they will only support those actions of a new president which will conform to their party's goals.

Public Control Commission Outlines Election Violations

LD0507192694 Minsk Belarusian Foreign Ministry Department of Information in Russian 1332 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Public Control Commission [PCC] has held its routine meeting at which it analyzed the results of the observation over the first round of elections and defined the main types of violation: The lists of voters were carelessly prepared; observers were prevented from attending the voting without any legal grounds; the number of bulletins at the polling stations exceeded on average by 12 percent the number of voters; the counting of votes at the rayon and oblast levels was very often carried out by executive committees and not by electoral commissions. The PCC decided, according to the results of the session, to strengthen control, especially at the rayon and oblast levels.

Parliament To Hold Session Regardless of Election Results

LD0507200094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1838 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Belarusian parliament will hold an extraordinary session whatever the results of the second round of the presidential elections on 10 July, Chairman of the Belarusian parliament Mechyslaw Hryb said at a press conference in Minsk today.

Hryb said that if the second round of the elections brought no definite results, the Central Election Commission must within ten days submit to the parliament

its proposal on a new date for presidential elections and an extraordinary session of the parliament must consider the proposal.

Hryb said that in accordance with the Belarusian Constitution if the president is not elected during the second round of the presidential elections the powers of the head of the state would automatically go to the speaker of the parliament. The first vice speaker would perform the functions of the speaker.

When asked his opinion on the statement of U.S. President Bill Clinton published in the Izvestiya newspaper, "The peoples of the former USSR have the right to re-unite if they want this very much," Hryb told an INTERFAX correspondent that the U.S. President was very logical in his statement. "Clinton is absolutely right and if our peoples really want this no politicians will be capable of hindering it," Hryb said.

Trade Unions Ready To Cooperate With President

WS0507143694 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1200 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Belarusian Trade Unions Federation [FPB] Council Presidium has issued a statement regarding the second round of presidential elections. The official trade unions are going to constructively cooperate with a universally elected state leader on a social parity basis if trade unions' rights are guaranteed. "Trade unions, which comprise FPB, will support actions aimed at implementing programs for overcoming the crisis, as well as at formulating and implementing a new socioeconomic policy, to build a welfare and law-governed state," the statement says. The FPB Council Presidium also states that trade unions should not be dragged into political games surrounding presidential candidates. Moreover, FPB believes that one of its immediate tasks is to nominate candidates for a new Belarusian parliament.

Demand Tariff Deal, Warn of Possible Strikes

WS0507143794 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1200 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] On 4 July, the Commission for Debate on a New Labor Code held a meeting attended by representatives of the government and trade unions. As BELAPAN has learned, in the course of the meeting, a representative of the Free Trade Unions of Belarus [SPB] read out an official statement regarding the government's unwillingness to sign an agreement on tariffs with the free unions, which is a gross violation of the law on trade unions and collective agreements. According to SPB Chairman Henadz Bykaw, the text of this statement will also be handed over to Mikhail Myasnikovich, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. SPB will demand conclusion of an agreement on tariffs with the government, using all legal methods—protest marches, hunger strikes, etc.

Kebich Aide Says Rubles To Circulate in Aug

MK0507145494 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 2

[Report by Yelena Kolokoltseva under the "Neighbors" rubric: "Talks on the Fifth Paragraph Continue. The Hare's Fate Depend on Belarus Poll Results—followed by ADS report from Minsk"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Under the protocol to the treaty on the unification of Russia's and Belarus' money systems, which was signed in Minsk 3 July, the procedure for the creation of money by the Russian Central Bank on Belarusian territory through the Belarusian National Bank will be determined by the end of July, as will the procedure for exchanging "hares" [Belarus currency] for Russian bills. The protocol also sets forth that five articles of the treaty (including Article 5) will be amended via an exchange of letters between the two countries' foreign ministries.

In an interview for ADS, Gennadiy Kozlov, Belarus' deputy state secretary, said that texts of new phrasings of the articles that have become a stumbling bloc for the full implementation of the treaty have already been drawn up. "As early as August we will live with Russian rubles," he said. However, Gennadiy Kozlov thinks, the outcome of the current final stage of talks is directly dependent on the election results. Viktor Chernomyrdin has most confidential relations with Vyacheslav Kebich, explained Gennadiy Kozlov, who is a member of the Belarusian prime minister's electoral team. According to an influential official of the Belarus National Bank, Belarusian bankers have assessed the recent talks as "empty." He said that even Viktor Gerashchenko expressed his bewilderment in a private conversation as to why they have brought him to Minsk. The bank official called the documents that were signed an action by the Russian Government in support of one candidate in the presidential elections. [passage omitted]

Russia's Shokhin Cited on Monetary Union Protocol

PM0507133194 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 5

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov under general heading: "Belarus Celebrates"]

[Text] Russia and Belorussia [Belarus] signed a protocol in Minsk on Sunday on the course of the implementation of the April accords on the unification of their monetary systems.

The document records, on the one hand, what has already been done in the direction of unification and, on the other, outlines the sometimes quite tough tasks of developing mechanisms for implementing money emission and exchanging bank notes. Let us recall that the treaty on the unification of the monetary systems of Russia and Belorussia signed in April this year contained

a clause which stipulated that regulating and control functions over the National Bank of Belorussia be handed over to the Central Bank of Russia.

Russian Government Vice Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin stated in an interview with your ITAR-TASS correspondent that these mechanisms can be elaborated by August. The protocol records that if specific amendments to previously signed documents are needed they can be made. But, Aleksandr Shokhin noted, here Russia will proceed not from political but from purely professional, financial and banking considerations.

The vice prime minister said that this means that if the status of the National Bank of Belorussia changes by comparison with previously enshrined agreements a number of elements of these agreements should be rectified accordingly.

The sides agreed to stipulate precisely by August this year the question of how emission will be regulated. For instance, if emission is carried out by the Central Bank of Russia through the National Belorussian Bank with the relevant control mechanisms, that could replace the complete transfer of control functions to the Central Bank of Russia, which would not contradict the existing Republic of Belarus Constitution.

The forthcoming unification of the two sovereign states' monetary systems can also be viewed in a broader context. Obviously it is no accident that Russian Government head Viktor Chernomyrdin made a statement in Minsk reflecting the official stance on Nursultan Nazarbayev's proposal to create a Eurasian Union—an association linked by closer ties than the CIS.

The Russian prime minister said that the Kazakhstan president's initiative could become the subject of discussion at September's meeting of the CIS heads of state and government in Sochi. Alma-Ata [Almaty], Viktor Chernomyrdin added, has clearly defined the future union's parameters. In many ways the principles on which it has been built accord with the principles on which Russia and Belorussia are now effecting close economic integration.

Hryb: Monetary Union May Change Attitude to CIS

LD0607084194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0807 GMT 6 Jul 94

[Report by BELINFORM correspondent Larisa Lazar for TASS]

[Text] Minsk 6 July TASS—If changes in the treaty on uniting the monetary systems are accepted by the Russian side, then it will radically change attitude towards the Commonwealth, since Belorussia [Belarus], as a sovereign state will independently carry out its monetary-credit policy and will independently determine the emission of money. This comment was made by Mechyslaw Hryb, chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet, here today on the outcome of the bilateral intergovernmental agreements between Belorussia and Russia signed in Minsk on 3 July.

Hryb noted that a mechanism to exchange bank notes issued by the National Bank of the Republic of Belorussia against the Russian rubles will be devised in July, and further measures for realising the agreement. According to Hryb, this is true that the "treaty itself was not fully devised to the end." He said that Prime Minister of Russia Viktor Chernomyrdin and members of the two states' government delegations had decided at the Minsk meeting that it would have been better to begin with the signing of the treaty on economic cooperation, one of the clauses of which could have also concerned the unification of the monetary systems. The head of the parliament noted that the work is underway on the creation of a large-scale cooperation treaty between the two states.

Moldova

Dniester Prolongs State of Emergency

AU0507112994 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2000 GMT 30 Jun 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 30/6/1994—The president of the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic issued a decree on prolonging through 31 August the emergency state in Dniester in order to "consolidate public and state security and combat the increasing crime rate." This is the seventh month of emergency status in Dniester. Initially this emergency state was declared in January 1994 due to "a worsening socio-economic and political situation in the region" local observers say that the emergency state was declared due to the menace of protests and strikes in the region as a result of decreasing output and increasing unemployment. The same sources indicate that no success has been achieved in fighting organized crime. The legal criteria for the emergency state in Dniester approved on 17 March 1991 by the Tiraspol Supreme Soviet stipulates increased patrolling, special entry and exit regulations in the region, and the expulsion of Dniester inhabitants and outsiders, whichever institution they represent, who violate public order. It also stipulates suspension of parties, public organizations, movements and associations that jeopardize the normalization of the situation and restrictions over circulation.

Dniester Criticizes Russian Intelligence Chief's Visit

AU0607071694 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2015 GMT 2 Jul 94

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS, 2/07/1994—Oleg Gudyma, Dniester's temporary ministry of security, stated today in an interview to Tiraspol Radio that the results of the recent visit to Moldova by the Russian chief of Federal Intelligence Service, Sergei Stepashin,

are negative. Gudyma declared that he does not "see any positive" on sequences of Stepashin's visit." In his opinion, Stepashin's visit to Tiraspol, accompanied by Vasile Calmoi, chief of the Moldovan security service, having as its objective a meeting with General Aleksandr Lebed, points out that "Lebed plays a destabilizing role in Dniester's situation." During his visit, Sergei Stepashin refused to meet the Tiraspol leaders, and especially the Dniester minister of security.

Aide 'Negatively Assesses' Abkhaz-Gagauz Talks

LD0107163794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1404 GMT 1 Jul 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] Chief of the Moldovan president's apparatus Valeriy Verstyuk has "sharply negatively" assessed the talks between the Gagauz and Abkhaz delegations discussing possible establishment of a Commonwealth of non-recognized states in Komrat (the capital of the non-recognized Gagauz Republic).

Verstyuk said in an interview with INTERFAX that any attempts for unification of states which nobody recognized were torpedoing the process of stabilization both in the new independent states and on all territory of the CIS.

Press Secretary of the Gagauz parliament Vasiliy Neikovchen told INTERFAX that the meeting in Komrat stressed that moves for establishment of such a commonwealth must be more energetic. They said the commonwealth was needed in order to defend the interests of territories seeking independence by joint efforts.

The South Ossetian delegation will arrive in Komrat in the next few days. South Ossetians have negotiated with the leaders of Transdniestria on the same issue. IF Note: On Wednesday, President of the Transdniestrian Republic Igor Smirnov and Chairman of the South Ossetian State Council Znaur Gasseyev initialled the draft treaty on friendship and cooperation between the two non-recognized states. The initialled document is expected to be signed in the next few days. It provides for cooperation in the economic, political and humanitarian spheres.

The new commonwealth is expected to unite South Ossetia, Chechnya, the Transdniestrian Republic, Gagauzia, Abkhazia and Crimea.

Initiators of the establishment of the commonwealth did not rule out that other republics might later join it, including that from beyond the limits of the ex-USSR.

Moldovan Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolay Osmokesku assessed the visit of the South Ossetian delegation to Transdniestria and the visit of the Abkhaz delegation to Gagauzia as illegal. "From the point of view of international law treaties concluded by illegal non-recognized territorial formations can have no legal force," he told INTERFAX.

Osmokesku stressed that the position of Moldova remained the same. Moldova still regarded the Transdniestrian conflict as its domestic affair and said that it must be resolved by political means under mediation of the CSCE and Russia.

Foreign Minister on Forthcoming Talks With Russia

LD0407210894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 4 Jul 94

[Text] In an interview with INTERFAX the Moldovan Foreign Minister Mikhail Popov said his country and Russia will agree on a concrete date for the withdrawal of the 14th Army stationed in the Dniester river valley. He announced that concrete instructions to this end had been given to the two delegations that will meet for the next round of negotiations in Chisinau in August.

Popov also spoke in favor of breaking the stalemate in the bilateral friendship and cooperation treaty that has been ratified only by Moldova. He said a delegation of the Russian Foreign Ministry is to visit Chisinau in the second half of July to discuss matters related to the ratification of the treaty by the State Duma. Popov said an appropriate agreement was reached last week in Tbilisi at the fourth meeting of foreign ministers from countries of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization.

Answering a question about progress at the talks between Chisinau and the self-proclaimed Transdniester Republic on the special legal status of the territory Popov said they were proceeding slowly, especially in the political sphere. Certain steps have been made forward on economic matters. In Popov's opinion, Tiraspol should act more resolutely instead of delaying the process.

Catana Blames Russia for Security Zone Violations

AU0507113594 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2000 GMT 30 Jun 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 30/6/1994— The Joint Control Commission held yesterday in Tighina (Bender) a session. The session examined the situation in the security zone during the last week and the activity of the operative investigation group. Colonel General Anatoliy Sergeyev, commander of the Povolzhie military district employed in the peace keeping mission in Dniester, took part in the session. Victor Catana, Moldovan interior vice minister and co-chairman of the Joint Control Commission, stated during the session that the Dniester side repeatedly violated the 21 July 1992 agreement signed by Presidents Snegur and Yeltsin. According to him, since August 1992, as a result of Dniester President

Igor Smirnov's orders, Dniester paramilitary organizations have erected customs offices and border points in the security zone. Catana argued that they should be driven out of the zone patrolled by the peace keeping forces. This could be done only with Russian help. However, the Russian side overlooks these facts and states that once these formations already exist only political measures should be taken to remove them. The meeting between Colonel General Sergeyev and Moldovan Defence Minister, General Pavel Creanga, was scheduled for today.

Socialist Unity Faction To Take No Part in Coalition

AU0607071394 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2015 GMT 2 Jul 94

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 2/07/1994—The Socialist Unity Fraction does not consider itself a part of the Governmental coalitions, nor do agrarians accept it as such, states to the newspaper KISHINYOVSKIE NOVOSTI Vladimir Solonari, chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for Human Rights and National Minorities. He said that is why the socialists do not assume responsibility for what is going on in Moldova. "The socialists were not sufficiently consulted even in the creation of the government," stated Solonari. In his opinion, the socialists cannot afford the luxury of a direct confrontation with the majority. "Under the current circumstances, it would mean playing with Moldova's fate. Agrarians would not have passed the Program on Governmental activity without us," he said. Solonari said that the Program contains "only good intentions without serious calculations". If the socialists had not voted for it, this would have brought about the government's resignation and thus a Parliament unable to make decisions. Solonari also said that "the Front is still an irresponsible nationalist organization, which enjoys the worsening situation in Moldova, criticizes everybody and does not propose anything concrete." In his opinion, the FPCD [Christian Democratic Popular Front of Moldova] tries by all means to throw the apple of discord between Agrarians and Socialists.

Inflation Cuts Consumer Goods Consumption

AU0507113294 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2000 GMT 30 Jun 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 30/6/1994—Production of consumer goods is totally unprofitable, say experts from the Marketing Institute (IM). Purchasing power has considerably fallen and as a result goods are not demanded as they should be. According to an IM analysis, in May 1994 a minimum salary could buy 10.5-times less meat and 22.7-times less milk than in May 1990. It could buy 19.7-times less fish, 14.9-times less bread, 7.3-times less eggs and 4.6-times less potatoes. The general impoverishment has made people spend more, proportionally, on food stuffs. As a result, the decline in the production of non-alimentary goods deepens. This year, cotton cloth supply dropped 59 times in comparison with 1990, knitted items 12.3 times and leather shoes nine times. According to statistics, in January-May, the decline in the production of mass consumer goods accelerated by 5.7 times in comparison with the same period of 1993. According to independent experts, the crisis experienced by the Moldovan consumption market is due to inflation. They say that inflation should be gauged not on the basis of the artificial exchange rate of the Moldovan leu but of the large interests imposed by the Moldovan commercial banks. Economists say that inflation can be stopped only through increasing production.

Deputy Premier Discusses Economic Program

AU0607071794 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2015 GMT 2 Jul 4

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 2/07/1994—The government's program of activity is a step towards economic reform and the creation of an effective market economy, declared in an interview to PDAM (Moldovan Agrarian Democratic Party] publication PAMANT SI OAMENI (Land and People) Ion Guru, Moldovan deputy premier. Guru considers that the governing team consists of "mainly of professionals and pragmatists who are willing to do a thorough and efficient job." The interviewed regretted that the idea of introducing an exceptional economic status was previously neglected. This idea was proposed by many social organizations, including the Industrialists' Union. The neglect of this idea led to great losses for the Republic, for "many organs were lacking intensity in their activity and many vital problems were untreated and left unsolved for a long time." Guru mentioned that as yet the interaction mechanisms of the CIS Economic Union are not well set, that they are practically inoperative. "Many necessary decisions are made, but no CIS state is influenced by them."

Dniester's Industrial Output Declines 'Considerably'

AU0507114494 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2000 GMT 30 Jun 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 30/6/1994—Dniester's industrial output fell considerably; in the first five months of 1994 it produced 16.7-percent less than in the same period of the last year, certifies a booklet of the statistics direction from Tiraspol. Production was cut by 76 industrial plants, i.e. 64 percent of the total. The most considerable decline of industrial production was registered in Tiraspol—more than 50 percent, the production of consumer goods fell by 26 percent. The agro-industrial complex is also deteriorating: the production of meat decreased by 45.7 percent sausages 46.2 percent, butter 18.8 percent and dairy products 13.8 percent. The booklet proves that the main factors causing the deterioration are financial difficulties, the deficit of raw materials and the violation of contracts by the suppliers. The average salary in the area constituted in April 287,000

Dniester rubles (about $12); the highest salaries were paid to employees of the administrative bodies and the government of the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic.

Finance Minister Reports on Causes of Budget Deficit

AU0207203894 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2030 GMT 29 Jun 94

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 29/06/1994—In January-May, the budget deficit was 133 billion lei; this represents 55 percent of the annual budget. The Finance Minister, Valeriu Chitan, presented a report yesterday at the governmental session. According to the report, the state budget received 375 billion lei; this is 29 percent of the total budget forecast instead of the 40 percent expected for 1994. The expenditures stood at 508.4 billion lei, or 33 percent, instead of the 45 percent forecast. The budget deficit exceeded 505 million lei as in the first quarter incomes constituted 35-40 percent due to the Moldovan economy's seasonal activity, in the second half this will be more than 60 percent. According to the report, many negative factors affected the Moldovan budget. The budget losses due to diminished production alone were 56-60 billion lei, of which the amount due to unpaid income taxes constituted 25 billion lei, of value added taxes 20 billion and excises 10 billion lei. Due to the fact that several economic agents were exempted from paying excises, another 16 billion lei were not received by the state budget. The losses incurred due to the 50-percent reduction of excise taxes established by the presidential decree on 21 March totaled 25 billion lei. The income taxes of the agricultural enterprise employees were annulled. As a result another 33 billion lei were not levied. The prolongation of the period for paying income taxes granted to various economic agents caused another 25 billion lei in losses. According to the report, the total sum lost since the beginning of 1994 stands at 100 billion lei.

Moscow Provides 80 Billion Soviet-Era Rubles

LD0307200294 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 3 Jul 94

[Text] About R90 billion of old Soviet banknotes were delivered today from Moscow to Pridnestrovye. According to RIA, Soviet banknotes were delivered to Tiraspol to replace the already printed Pridnestrovye coupons. This was done under the pressure from the Moldovan leadership, which plans to introduce its own currency, leu, in Pridnestrovye in future. Tiraspol has decided that old Soviet rubles with a portrait of Suvorov glued on them will serve as a monetary unit in Pridnestrovye.

Tiraspol Government Session Discusses State Credits

AU0507165894 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1930 GMT 3 Jul 94

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS, 3/07.1994 (BASA-press) On 30 June, the Tiraspol government held a session at which it discussed the problem of state credits. The amount of credits the economic agents will benefit from will reach 207 billion Dniester rubles ($8,625 thousand), 52 billion of which will be allocated for payments to Moldovan trade partners. The Dniester government continues the policy of giving low-interest credits to state enterprises, thus stimulating inflation and the fall of the Dniester ruble's value.

Moldovgas Cuts Off Supplies to Most Industrial Consumers

LD0607101694 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 6 Jul 94

[Text] In Moldova 80 percent of industrial consumers of natural gas have had their supplies cut off. Boris Karandyuk, director general of the Moldovgas concern, told a RIA correspondent that these harsh measures were taken against consumers who have failed to pay, because the Republic's debt to the Russian Gazprom has risen to $180 million. The Dniester Republic is responsible for 40 percent of the debt.

Russian Army Commander Tipped as Future Defense Minister

AU0607064894 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1930 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS, 3/07/1994—The results of a June opinion poll conducted in a Moscow garrison among 1,867 people including professors and students of the Russian Superior Military Academies were made public to the 14th Army Command. The respondents answered a series of questions on Russian foreign and internal policy. According to the poll, 84 percent favored the dismissal of the current administration of the Russian Defense Ministry, whereas 16 percent differed. At the question "Whom of the Russian superior officers would you like to see as head of the Defense Ministry?", 76 percent opted for Lebed, 19 percent for General Boris Gromov and 3.5 percent for General Mikhail Kolesnikov; others opted for other candidates. It is worth noting that none of the respondents mentioned the current Defense Minister Pavel Grachev. On the other hand, respondents argued that Pavel Grachev is to be blamed for the delay in military reform. The vast majority of officers indicated that General Lebed is a sure candidate for Defense Minister. In connection with this poll, rumors were circulating in Tiraspol that in September Lebed will leave to take over the post of supreme commander of a military branch. This would be a "transition post" on the way to replacing Grachev as Defense Minister. According to the poll, 51 percent of the respondents supported current Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin and 49 percent see him as the strongest candidate in the future presidential elections.

Kazakhstan

Parliament Decides To Move Capital to Akmola

LD0607094794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0911 GMT 6 Jul 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Almaty, 6 July— The capital of Kazakhstan is to be moved to Akmola (formerly Tselinograd). This was decided today by the republic's parliament after a long and heated debate.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev asked the parliament to examine the question of transferring the capital. Speaking at today's session, the head of state explained to the deputies why he had proposed this step.

State Property Committee Discusses Privatization

LD0507085794 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] A two-day sitting of the collegium of the State Property Committee with participation of the territorial committees' heads and representatives of relevant ministries and departments resumed its work in Almaty today. At issue are problems of further improving the work of the State Property Committee on denationalization and privatization as well as the progress of implementation of the president's decree on privatization of state agricultural enterprises in Pavlodar Oblast; rights and property relations in setting up joint ventures; the work of the North Kazakhstan territorial committee with regard to selling the state property in the framework of small privatization and some other problems.

Opening the sitting, State Property Committee chairman Kozy-Korpesh Yesenberlin noted that there was no need for any fundamental change of the national program. The program corresponds to its objectives and aims. But the program is not a dogma, and many of its provisions and rules are subject to reassessment. Life itself makes us introduce significant changes to the program, especially when it concerns the processes which are taking place in the framework of small and large-scale privatisation of the agro-industrial complex.

The problem of housing coupons awaits its final resolution. The work of joint stock trade companies deserves the closest attention as well as the abnormal situation with leasing; issues of enlargement of investment privatization funds; and the quickest possible formation of the securities market.

Conference Airs Serious Agricultural Problems

LD0507170194 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0400 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Late last week Agriculture Minister Zhanibek Karibzhanov met the heads of large farms and discussed how to lift the Kazakh agriculture out of the current crisis. One of the participants in the meeting, the director of the Shugla collective farm from the Akzhaikskiy rayon of Westa Kazakhstan oblast, said that the situation in agriculture is very serious. In west Kazakhstan the sowing campaign, hay-making, lambing, and grain harvesting are on the verge of failure owing to lack of money, spare parts, and fuel. Besides, farmers need a well developed food industry. Another big problem is imperfection of the crediting system in agriculture. This year banks easily granted loans of 30-40 million tenge to commercial structures, whereas farmers had many hardships asking for much smaller sums. Farmers need specific laws and regulations so that banks cannot infringe their rights. The Agrobank cannot compete with commercial banks and its work should be improved. Kazakhstani farmers founded the Agrobank, but in fact the bank went bankrupt and farmers have lost their money. [passage omitted]

The conference noted that farms' assets are deliberately deflated so that somebody could have a good buy. Farmers have a feeling of being involved in an unfair play. The government is making cuts in everything—schools, nurseries,hospitals—and if farms want to keep educational and health care establishments, they should also maintain them themselves. Production is on the decline everywhere. The situation in agriculture requires very urgent measures.

In the south of Kazakhstan the situation with haymaking and harvesting is very serious, mainly owing to acute shortages of fuel and lubricants. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Indeed, it is a very bad start for the cereal harvesting campaign. The weather was bad, and we are late. Snow and rain last spring delayed the beginning of the sowing campaign by up to two months. We have never had such a situation before. Some farms were completing their sowing campaign as late as May. [passage omitted]

Kyrgyzstan

Akayev Airs 'Urgent' Energy Problems

LD0507153994 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1100 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Summary] On 1 July Kyrgyzstan sharply increased charges for electricity, natural, gas, and heat.

[Mayak's Bishkek correspondent Aleksandr Mirtov] This measure has become necessary because of a huge hard currency debt to Uzbekistan, the provider of gas to Kyrgyzstan. The cost of Kyrgyz coal, which is extracted in the southern Osh oblast, is exorbitant, because it has be delivered via Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, which means dollar payments for railroad cars and transit.

Bishkek has been without hot water for over a month and its heat and power station now has coal reserves for only two days. The Republic's electricity requirements can be

met by a series of hydroelectric stations on the Naryn river, but that will take time and money.

These problems were discussed at a recent expanded sitting of the government praesidium. Addressing the meeting, Kyrgyz president Askar Akayev said:

[Begin Akayev recording] "The neighboring states' policy on power engineering is already clear. As for credit from Russia, which you all hope we will get, I am quite pessimistic about it. We must not pin our hopes on a credit from Russia, what we need is to draw up our own blueprint for the development of power engineering, our own power engineering policy. The State Committee for the Economy should take the lead in this work and conduct a comprehensive study into the use of energy sources. All these are urgent problems. If we shelve them, claiming we lack funds, then in the future we will need twice, three times, or maybe several dozen times more funds to solve these issues. We simply must do it, otherwise we will not survive the winter of 1994-95."

Economic Cooperation Agreement With Moscow City

LD0507182094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1751 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Maynayev]

[Text] Bishkek 5 July TASS—An agreement on cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and the city of Moscow in the field of trade, economy, science and technology has been signed in Bishkek.

Kyrgyz First Vice-Premier Almanbet Matubraimov, Deputy Chairman of the Moscow City Government Anatoliy Petrov and Russian Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan Mikhail Romanov and other officials participated in the ceremonies.

"The document we signed today will pave the way for restoring the links between the city of Moscow and Kyrgyzstan and stimulate their further development," Petrov told ITAR-TASS.

According to him, the cooperation will encompass all economic branches, science, culture, sports and the arts. Moscow's participation in "conversing" Kyrgyzstan's defence plants from military to civilian output will also be worked out.

The city of Moscow is interested in Kyrgyz agricultural products—namely, onions, garlic, tobacco and tobacco products, wine and wine products. For its part, the Russian capital is about to begin supplying Bishkek with 150 kinds of goods that are wanted in Kyrgyzstan.

Tajikistan

China Provides Long-Term Loan Worth $50 Million

LD0507141994 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Chinese Government has decided to construct small confectionaries in the large rayons of Tajikistan, according to an agreement signed by Abdulmajid Dostiyev, first deputy chairman of the Takij Supreme Council. It is thought that the Chinese experts will take part in constructing these confectionaries.

In order to implement this idea, China is providing a long-term loan worth $50 million to the Republic of Tajikistan.

Tajik Official Concludes Working Visit to Moscow

LD0507144394 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Kozidavlat Koimdodov, deputy chairman of the republican Supreme Soviet, ended his working visit in Moscow. He met with the chairmen of committees of the Federation Council and the State Duma, according to an agreement on economic cooperation signed by the leaders of the two countries. They discussed providing a technical loan to Tajikistan.

Kozidavlat Koimdodov also met with representatives of the Russian Federal Assembly to discuss speeding up the process of Tajikistan's entry to the ruble zone. He told our correspondent in a telephone conversation that both sides realize the need for this. The leaders of our Republic as well as the representatives of the Russian Government support the idea of unification of the monetary systems.

Abdujalil Samadov, chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers, also held talks with representatives of the Russian Government on this issue.

Opposition Fires on Defense Ministry Subunits

LD0507204594 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 5 Jul 94

[from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Last night, fighters of the opposition fired on the subunits of the Defense Ministry of Tajikistan. After a return fire the shelling stopped. There are no casualties among Tajik servicemen.

Turkmenistan

Israeli Foreign Minister Arrives in Ashgabat

LD0507122094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1005 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Israel's Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres arrived in Turkmenistan for a one-day visit on Tuesday.

As Turkmenistan's Deputy Premier Boris Shikhmuradov has reported to INTERFAX, Peres plans to discuss with the republican leadership ways of promoting cooperation in various industries. The Turkmen side is ready to sign a protocol on consultations between the foreign ministries of the two countries and a memorandum of understanding.

Peres was received by Turkmenistan's President Niyazov Tuesday morning. It was a private reception.

Niyazov, Peres Sign Documents

LD0507155794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Turkmenian President Saparmurad Niyazov and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres signed in Ashgabat (previously spelled Ashkhabad) Tuesday [5 July] a memorandum of understanding and a protocol on consultations between the foreign ministries of the two countries.

Peres said at a news conference that he and President Niyazov had discussed bilateral economic cooperation, the political situation in Central Asia and the Middle East, fundamentalism and extremism.

Asked by INTERFAX about the relations between Israel and the Moslem World Peres said that no religion or people were Israel's enemy, only the war policy.

Peres stayed in Ashgabat on a one-day working visit.

Uzbekistan

Deputy Premier, Iranian Envoy Discuss Railroad Project

LD0307210694 Tehran IRNA in English 2040 GMT 3 Jul 94

[Text] Moscow, 3 July, IRNA—Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of International Trade Relations Otkir Sultanov told the Iranian ambassador in Tashkent today that his government is interested in participating in the railway project that would link holy Mashhad to the central Asian network via Sarakhs on the Iran-Turkmen border.

The Iranian ambassador, Musa Hashemi Golpayegani, and the Uzbek official reviewed outlooks for the cooperation of the two countries in various areas including transportation and transit of goods via their respective countries.

Sultanov said there was no political issue between the two countries that might hamper their cooperation.

He said certain personalities with malicious intention publish rumours in relation with the two countries which, he said, is not consistent with the policies of Uzbekistan.

Sultanov is to arrive in Tehran for an official visit Tuesday [5 July].

Envoy to Russia Dismissed on Transfer

LD0507163394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1417 GMT 5 Jul 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] By a decree on Monday [4 July], President Islam Karimov dismissed Uzbekistan's Ambassador to Moscow Yusuf Abdullayev. A standard note on his dismissal says that he resigns because of transition to another job.

Abdullayev has been the ambassador for over two years since 11 June 1992. As a diplomat, he told journalists that in his day-to-day work he proceeded from President Karimov's instructions that national interests in the policy of independent Uzbekistan. As for Russia, according to him, "it has always been a great power, and it is crucial to maintain friendly relations with it."

As a presidential spokesman has reported to INTERFAX, Abdullayev's new appointment will become known within the next few days. An appropriate document is in the making.

Armenia

Front Situation Updated, Cease-Fire Violations Claimed

NC0507154694 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Dear listeners, we now present a report on the situation in the Nagrono-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

There have been no intensive combat operations on the NKR front line for more than two months. Nevertheless, the situation is tense because of Azerbaijan's rejection of Russia's plan to find a peaceful solution to the confrontation and that Republic's wide-scale preparations to prolong the war. This has been confirmed by the NKR intelligence units. The information they have gathered indicate that Azerbaijan is massing reinforcements and military hardware in several areas close to the NKR front line. Naturally, the neighboring Republic's preparations have not escaped the NKR's attention. In fact, appropriate measures are now being taken.

It must also be stressed that Azerbaijani military units have continued to fire on Armenian defense positions in the front line with various types of arms every day. The Armenian side has refrained from returning the fire in many cases. Regardless of the provocations, it is making an effort to remain committed to the cease-fire agreement.

The NKR Defense Army Headquarters has disclosed that the NKR positions in Talish and (Sheyhsulan) in Mardakertskiy Rayon and Shurabad and (Shodlanly) in Agdamskiy Rayon were fired on the night before last, but no one was hurt. The Armenian forces did not return the fire.

One of Azerbaijan's military aircraft tried to violate NKR airspace at 1145 yesterday. According to military experts, it was on a reconnaissance flight over Mardakertskiy Rayon.

The situation in several areas on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan is unstable. As has been the case in the past, a tense situation prevails in the border areas in Noyemberyanskiy, Idzhevanskiy, Tavushskiy, and Araratskiy Rayons. Azerbaijan's military units not only fire on those areas, but also try to violate Armenia's border from time to time. For example, a military unit violated our Republic's state border the night before last. It tried to occupy one of the heights around Derekend in Vardenisskiy Rayon. However, it failed to achieve its objective. The Armenian border guards launched a strong counterattack and forced it to retreat.

According to the information we have received from appropriate sources, no serious incidents had occurred at the NKR front line and the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan as of this afternoon. In other words, the situation has been relatively peaceful.

Foreign Minister Replies to CSCE-Russian Appeal

NC0507195094 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1900 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Efforts are continuing to search for mutually acceptable variants for the peaceful resolution of Nagorno-Karabakh conflict by bringing the positions of the CSCE and Russia closer. Within this context, a consultative meeting took place in Moscow on 23 June between Ambassador Jan Eliasson, head of Minsk Group, and Vladimir Kazimirov, Russian president's ambassador on special missions and head of the Russian delegation dealing with Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

Foreign Ministry Press and Public Relations Service reports that at the end of that meeting a joint letter of appeal was sent to the leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan, and Armenia. While expressing concern over the incident on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, in general the mediators expressed satisfaction at the observance of the cease-fire established on 12 May at the initiative of Russia and with the support of the CSCE. They called on all sides to reiterate their obligations by respecting the cease-fire provisions and using the present opportunity to lay firm foundations for the final termination of the conflict.

In his reply letter, the Foreign Minister Vahan Papazyan welcomed in the name of the Armenian president the joint mediatory efforts of the CSCE and Russia to consolidate the present cease-fire and peacefully resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. He announced Armenia's readiness to respect the obligations of the 12 May cease-fire. However, the foreign minister expressed concern that despite the cessation of the military operations for the last two months, the lack of a legal document on the cease-fire may seriously endanger the existing historic shift to a peaceful resolution of the conflict. Therefore, in the reply letter the CSCE Minsk Group chairman is advised to urgently invite all sides to sign the agreement that Eliasson himself proposed for the consolidation of the cease-fire.

Arkadiy Gukasyan, foreign minister of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, sent a similar letter to Jan Eliasson.

Law on State Borders Adopted

NC0507202294 Yerevan SNARK in English 1318 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Yerevan, 5 July (SNARK)—Armenian Parliament has passed a law on the state border. According to that law, Armenian state frontiers are determined by international and inter-governmental agreements, as well as decisions assumed by the Supreme Council of Armenia. All border problems with adjoining states shall be settled on mutual agreement basis.

A 5-km-broad frontier zone is established on Armenian territory where a special regime shall act.

Central command of border guards, according to the law, shall be performed by the State Border Guarding Headquarters within the Armenian National Security Administration.

Russian Rubles Taken Out of Circulation

NC0507212294 Yerevan SNARK in English 1507 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Yerevan, 5 July (SNARK)—Armenia finally refused from circulation of rubles and kopecks. According to the law adopted by the Supreme Council, the names of these monetary units will be withdrawn from the documents, circulating inside the Republic.

Instead of the rubles and kopecks in the documents, from now on, will figure drams and lumas, the nominals of the Armenian national currency.

The Armenian money was put into circulation late in November last year and during the past eight months has devaluated for more than 20 times with respect to the U.S. dollar.

Azerbaijan

Azeri Forces Continue To Shell Nagorno-Karabakh

LD0507194494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1838 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Azerbaijani forces have continued to shell Nagorno-Karabakh positions despite a relative lull in the conflict area. The headquarters of the Army of the self-proclaimed Nagorno-Karabakh Republic told INTERFAX Tuesday [5 July] that Nagorno-Karabakh outposts near Agdam and Mardakert came under heavy gunfire and shelling last night. Two Nagorno-Karabakh soldiers were wounded. No response measures were taken.

A spokesman for the Nagorno-Karabakh headquarters said intelligence had revealed active movements of Azerbaijani troops on the eastern and north-eastern sections of the front line.

Aliyev Pays Respects at U.S. Embassy, Remarks on Ties

NC0507210794 Baku TURAN in English 1755 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Baku, 5 July (TURAN)—Azeri President Aliyev congratulated American nation on the Day of Independence.

Addressing yesterday's reception, made by American Embassy on occasion of this holiday, President Aliyev mentioned that America plays a key role in the development of democracy.

President Aliyev said that Azerbaijan tries to use the U.S. experience in establishment of market economy and protection of human rights. That's why Azerbaijan establishes close ties with the U.S.

"These ties are strengthening day after day. Our correspondence with President Bill Clinton, meeting with the U.S. State Secretary Christopher, Collins and Talbott show that these relations will be developed and strengthened," said President Aliyev.

President Aliyev expressed his gratitude to the U.S. Ambassador Richard Kauzlarich for his condolences to the victims of the act of terrorism in Baku's metro, which took place on 3 July.

Georgia

UN Observers Confirm Georgian Shelling in Kodor Ravine

LD0507172394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1628 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow 5 July TASS—U.N. observers have confirmed Georgian shelling of Abkhazian units in the Kodor Ravine, sources at the press service of the Abkhazian representation in Russia told ITAR-TASS today.

According to them, the Tbilisi authorities explain violation of the cease-fire agreement by saying the Georgian units in the Kodor Ravine have run out of the Georgian Government's control. The Abkhazians are repulsing the militants. Monday's [4 July] fire exchange killed an attacker and wounded another.

Abkhazian sources reported today that a Russian peacemaking unit will arrive in the Kodor Ravine to estimate the situation and stop the provocations. The group may be headed by Deputy Russian Defence Minister Colonel-General Georgiy Kondratyev who plans to leave for the conflict zone on 6 July.

Russian Peacekeepers Open Fire in Abkhazia

LD0507184894 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The peacekeeping process is continuing in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone. Nikolay Mamulashvili reports from Tbilisi.

[Begin Mamulashvili recording] The Russian peacekeeping forces are operating actively in the region. Today, in the headquarters of the group of Russian forces in the Transcaucasus, I was told that in Tsalendzhikhskiy [Tsalendzhikha] Rayon, which is in the west of the Republic, on the bank of the Inguri River, which is the natural line dividing Georgia and Abkhazia, the blue helmets found a munitions dump. A large

number of shells for Grad rocket installations, anti-infantry mines, and shells for 82mm mortars were rendered harmless and removed.

Late yesterday evening near the village of (Mubiri) on the Black Sea coast, five armed men in a KamAz heavy truck ignored an order to stop by a peacekeeping forces' patrol. The blue helmets acted in accordance with their orders and after the relevant warning opened fire. One of the men in the truck was killed. The others were detained. Firearms were confiscated from them.

The situation in the Kodori Gorge is also tense. This is the mountainous area of Abkhazia; it is sometimes called the Abkhazian Svaneti. According to reports from the Georgian Defense Ministry, over the past 24 hours Abkhazian units have on several occasions fired field guns and Grad rocket installations against the positions of the Georgian volunteer forces. By the way, Georgian official sources said today that the Abkhaz side's combat equipment, withdrawn in accordance with the accords from the strip where the Russian peacekeeping forces are deployed, has been transferred to the Kodori Gorge. I will remind you that there are no blue helmets in that region. The question of deploying them in Kodori is being worked on. At one time it was planned that the peacekeepers would patrol Kodori, but in a conversation with me, Major General Aleksey Potapov, the commander of the contingent of peacekeeping forces stationed in the southern zone from western Georgia, noted that patrolling on its own will be just a half-measure and not very effective.

Nikolay Mamulashvili, Information Service, Tbilisi. [end recording]

Curfew Imposed in Gali Rayon; One Killed

LD0507210294 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1950 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Referring to eye-witnesses, the Center for Securing Information on the Settlement of the Abkhazian Conflict reports that a curfew has been imposed from 2100 till 0600 in the northern part of the security zone in Gali rayon. During curfew hours a local inhabitant was killed in the village of Zemo Vargebi.

Peacekeepers Prevent Armed Group From Entering Gali

LD0507215094 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Video report by correspondent M. Vardshelashvili; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Not control, but cooperation with Russian forces in the peacekeeping process. According to Edouard Brunner, the special envoy of the UN secretary general, this is the UN position regarding the Russian peacekeeping forces. Brunner stressed that the issue of Georgia's territorial integrity is not subject for reconsideration.

According to a statement made by Abisher (Chargazia), the chairman of the Zugdidi authority, today the Georgian troops should start control measures jointly with the Russian side. According to (Chargazia), the Abkhazian side should be taking part in these operations as well. However, for the time being no initiative has come from it.

Incidentally, a conflict occurred in the peacekeeping operation zone. The peacekeeping forces detained a group of armed Abkhazians in the northern part of the security zone. They succeeded in frustrating the attempts by this group to enter the town of Gali.

Russian Forces Begin Patrolling Zugdidi Region

LD0507173994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1508 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Today a unit of the Georgian Defense Minister consisting of 60 soldiers and officers of the Russian peacekeeping troops began patrolling territory near the village of Anakliya in the Zugdidi Region close to the sea in the southern security zone. The press service of the Georgian Defense Ministry told INTERFAX that this patrol service was being carried out in accordance with the settlement agreements of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict. Abkhaz military observers are also expected to come to Anakliya. However, they have been delayed for unknown reasons.

The same sources said that the Abkhaz authorities had not been letting Georgian military observers to the Ghali Region thus violating the agreements.

Russian Team Leaves For Kodori Gorge

LD0607083394 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0700 GMT 6 Jul 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] We have just received a report from ITAR-TASS: A Russian Defense Ministry group left today for Kodori Gorge in Abkhazia. Colonel General Georgiy Kondratyev, the Russian deputy defense minister, is heading the group. Speaking to journalists, he said that the main objective of the tour is to assess the situation in this most explosive sector of the Georgian-Abkhazian confrontation and to look at the practical implications of allowing refugees access to their permanent places of residence. Both sides recently expressed unhappiness about the procedure used with regard to the returning refugees at checkpoints operated by the Russian blue berets.

Estonia

'About 3,000' People Demonstrate Outside U.S. Embassy

WS0607093394 Tallinn BNS in English 1902 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Tallinn, 5 Jul, BNS—Two groups of demonstrators representing absolutely irreconcilable views, supporters of Russia and Latvian national radicals, gathered this afternoon in front of the U.S. embassy building in Rainis Street in Riga.

A BNS correspondent who happened to be on the scene estimated that about 3,000 people took part in the demonstration, including some 100 to 150 national radicals who demanded that the U.S. President not interfere in Latvia's internal affairs and the country's citizenship policy.

Thousands of partisans of Russia, on the other hand, kept shouting slogans like "Citizenship for everybody," "Freedom to Rubiks," and "Fascists!" They also carried placards saying "Apartheid is the disgrace of the democratic Latvia," "Bill—welcome to the apartheid state!" and "Mr. Clinton, if you love Latvia allow all people to do so."

With passions running high, members of the two groups came to blows. A special unit of the Latvian police that arrived at the scene took the embassy building under its protection but didn't interfere in the skirmish. The overwhelming majority of Russia's adherents soon forced national radicals to retreat. The Russian partisans dispersed about half an hour later at the demand of the organizers of the demonstration.

Tatyana Zhdanok, a leader of Latvia's Russia-oriented Equality Movement and a defender of the former Communist leader Alfreds Rubiks, who also was one of the organizers of the demonstration, confessed to BNS that the original picket turned into a demonstration and "in this sense it was a violation of public order." No serious injuries were reported.

U.S. Pledges $6 Million To Aid Russian Troop Withdrawal

LD0507111994 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1600 GMT 4 Jul 94

[Text] U.S. President Bill Clinton believes that Russia will observe its international obligations to Latvia and withdraw its troops by the end of August. Clinton hopes that the Russian troops will soon also be withdrawn from Estonia.

Immediately before his visit to Riga, Clinton said that the best guarantee for the troop withdrawal is the U.S. promise to allocate funds for this purpose. Clinton stated that it is relatively easy for the United States to ensure that the agreements between Latvia and Russia are observed because the United States, in essence, mediates the agreements.

According to Clinton, [words indistinct] with President Yeltsin. The United States has set aside $6 million for the construction of housing for the departing Russian servicemen. According to what Clinton said, he believes that Russia will use the money for this purpose and not violate any international agreements.

Foreign Minister on U.S. Aid

WS0607093494 Tallinn ETA in English 0821 GMT 6 Jul 94

[From 6 July HOMMIKULEHT, RAHVA HAAL, p 1,4; "News Bulletin" No. 128/94]

[Text] Wednesday, 6 July—Foreign Minister Juri Luik yesterday told HOMMIKULEHT that if Russia will not withdraw its troops from Estonia by 31 August, the United States may stop its economic aid to Russia. "It is in Russia's own interests that the troops would leave by 31 August. That way Russia demonstrates to the whole world that it is a democratic state. Also the U.S. Congress will start to discuss the Byrd amendment again in September," Luik said. Senator Byrd's amendment links the economic aid to Russia with the successful troops withdrawal from Baltic countries.

"As it is U.S. official position that Russian troops have to leave Estonia by 31 August, U.S. President is not able to give is signature, confirming, as Byrd's amendment demands, that the troops withdrawal is going successfully and smoothly, and the aid to Russia may continue." In his opinion it could be said that if the troops will not be withdrawn, the U.S. aid stops "nearly automatically." "If U.S. aid stops then the aid of the other countries stops also," Luik said. He remarked that the amount of Russian troops in Estonia is small and both Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin have said that there are no technical problems in withdrawing those troops by 31 August.

Luik told that after ITAR-TASS report that President Clinton is satisfied with Russian foreign policy in the Baltic countries, Estonian Foreign Ministry turned with inquiries to the U.S. Embassy and Washington about the statement. "It seems that the statement was not referred correctly," Luik said. He admitted that Estonian Foreign Ministry does not have the exact text of the Clinton's interview to the Japanese newspaper, but says that depending on ITAR-TASS choice of words he could not be quite sure what Clinton actually said. According to Luik his impressions from the visit to United States were that the support to the Baltic countries is very strong. "In the meetings with high officials in United States not once the question of residence grants or citizenship law was raised," Luik said.

Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Mari-Ann Rikken told yesterday after the Russian Foreign Ministry's statement about Estonian-Russian border that ministry's political department is looking into the matter and has already prepared a material about the historical background of the Estonian-Russian border problem.

Estonian Foreign Ministry Vice-Chancellor Raul Mulk and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin met in Geneva yesterday and discussed the problems in Estonian-Russian relations. The details of the discussion have not been disclosed.

Group Appeals to Meri, Clinton on Russian Recolonization

MK0507143794 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 3

[Unattributed report under the "NEGA Reports" rubric]

[Text] The Center for the Decolonization of Estonia has passed a public appeal to President Lennart Meri in connection with the upcoming meeting in Riga on 6 July of the Baltic countries' presidents with U.S. President Bill Clinton. The appeal says that Russia's objective is the restoration of "a unified and indivisible union state from the Pacific Ocean to the Baltics." It is believed in the Decolonization Center that to seek a massive integration of Russians would prove ruinous for Estonia. The Center asks Lennart Meri to use his meeting with President Bill Clinton—who has voiced clear support for the sovereignty of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania in his recent address to the peoples of the Baltics—to draw his attention to the circumstances detailed in this appeal and to persuade him to support the just aspirations of the Estonians based on the norms of international law.

Report on 'Extraordinary' Security for Clinton Visit

LD0607114494 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0900 GMT 6 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Both Latvian and U.S. security services have resorted to extraordinary security measures for the duration of U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit which have basically paralyzed any normal life in the city [of Riga]. A number of Riga's main streets as well as a number bridges across the Daugava river were closed early this morning thereby making it difficult for many people to get to work. The center of Riga is closed to private vehicles all day and cars parked in the streets of Riga have been removed. Once Clinton had arrived, the movement of pedestrians in the city center also became restricted. [passage omitted]

The staff of Latvian radio located on Doma Square are not allowed to enter rooms whose windows open on to the square. The demands from the U.S. security service are categorical and if anyone fails to comply with them, it could lead to loss of human life, says an instruction from Latvian radio's management. [passage omitted]

No Reply Planned to Russian Statement on Border Issue

LD0507200794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1838 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] The Estonian Foreign Ministry will not officially respond to the statement made by the Russian Foreign Ministry on the border issue, Estonian Foreign Ministry's Press Secretary Mari-Ann Rikken told INTERFAX today.

The Russian Foreign Ministry criticized the position of Estonia on the border issue and the law on the border adopted by the Estonian parliament on 30 June. In this law Estonia maintains that the border is demarcated on the basis of the Tartu peace treaty and other international documents. Moscow considers this a territorial claim by Tallinn for about 2,000 square km of Russian territory.

"Judging by the reaction of the Russian Foreign Ministry we clearly see that they have not properly examined our previous statement in which we have already expressed our position on the border issues. We are in favor of working out mutually acceptable solutions to the problem with no haste or mutual accusations. We have been repeatedly proposing different versions of settlement of the problem, for instance the discussion of this issue within the scope of the conference on the Pact on Stability in Europe," Mari-Ann Rikken said.

She added that Estonian officials were concerned at the fact that the Russian Foreign Ministry had recently more often stated its position in the media rather than by diplomatic channels. In particular, the Estonian Foreign Ministry had learned about the last two statements of the Russian Foreign Ministry only through newspaper reports. "This makes us think that our neighbor is exercising pressure on us on this issue," Mari-Ann Rikken said.

Formation of Peacekeeping Unit Approved

WS0607092494 Tallinn ETA in English 2029 GMT 5 Jul 94

["News Release"]

[Text] The Estonian Government approved the forming of the Estonian peacekeeping company, which is to become a part of the joint Baltic battalion. The forming of the battalion has been welcomed by the NATO and EU member countries, several of which have promised financial and material support. First Baltic joint military maneuvers were held in winter to practice the cooperation of Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian troops. The strength of the company is initially planned to be 50 men. According to the Estonian Defence Ministry press section, 20 million kroons have been allocated for the peacekeeping company in the budget for 1994.

Latvia

Clinton, Birkavs Sign Bilateral Treaty on Cooperation

LD0607092594 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0800 GMT 6 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Our special correspondents Arturas Mankevicius and Gytis Marcinkevicius reported from Riga that today at 1005 [0705 GMT] U.S. Air Force One landed at the Riga international airport. For the first time in history, the U.S. President arrived in Latvia. [passage omitted]

Afterwards, the U.S. delegation arrived at Riga Castle. A half an hour of talks were held between U.S. President Bill Clinton and Latvian Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs and other members of the Latvian Government.

A bilateral treaty on cooperation was signed by Clinton and Birkavs in the Hall of Ambassadors. [passage omitted]

A well organized meeting was held on 5 July opposite the U.S. Embassy in Riga not far from the Monument of Independence by people who live in Latvia, but are not citizens of Latvia. They held placards in English and shouted in Russian: No to Fascism, Shame to the Seimas and demanded the release of the leader of the former Communist Party Rubiks. More than 1,000 Russians disrupted traffic for more than an hour at Rainis Boulevard. [passage omitted]

Baltic Presidents Meet To Discuss Clinton Visit

WS0607091694 Tallinn BNS in English 1902 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Riga, 5 Jul, BNS--Presidents Lennart Meri of Estonia, Guntis Ulmanis of Latvia, and Algirdas Brazauskas of Lithuania met late on Tuesday at the Latvian seaside resort Jurmala near Riga to make final adjustments to their common platform for the meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton next day.

Meri told BNS before the conference that he had only some details of the common platform to coordinate with the Latvian and the Lithuanian leader.

"The Baltic states have been working together since 1990. If one were to suppose that a common platform still needs to be worked out a few hours before the meeting with Bill Clinton, it would mean our cooperation leaves much to be desired," the Estonian president said.

Meri pointed out some specific aspects of the Baltic states' problems, such as the withdrawal of Russian troops by Aug. 31 in Estonia's case, Latvia's concern over the Skrunda radar facility and the conflicts surrounding the new citizenship law, and Lithuania's problems with Russia's Kaliningrad enclave.

The president said he was confident that Ulmanis and Brazauskas would decisively support Estonia's demand that Russia pull its troops out of Estonia by the end of August. Estonia is the only Baltic state that doesn't have a formal withdrawal agreement with Russia.

Meri assured that Clinton's visit to Riga actually is a visit to all the three Baltic states and that it "shows the importance of the Baltic states in the European political process."

Police Check Up on Criminals Ahead of Clinton Trip

PM0507110794 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Jul 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "'Guilty Of Upcoming Clinton Visit'"]

[Text] The Latvian police have carried out their biggest operation this year to identify criminal elements in connection with the preparations for U.S. President Bill Clinton's planned visit to the Republic on 6 July. Places in Riga and environs and in Jurmala where criminals might be hanging out or staying have been checked. During the operation more than 2,700 people were checked. Some 86 people were arrested for various offenses and 289 people received administrative penalties. Documents are being prepared on the expulsion of 11 people from Latvia.

Jailed Ex-CP Leader Petitions Clinton on Rights Violations

PM0607111194 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Jul 94 p 1

[RIA report under the rubric "Top-Level Visit": "Clinton May Find Honorary Citizen of Little Rock in Latvian Jail"]

[Text] U.S. President Bill Clinton will arrive in Riga from Washington 6 July at 1000 local time and will spend seven hours in the Latvian capital. He will meet with Latvian Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs and members of the Latvian Government in the president's castle. Documents on bilateral cooperation in the sphere of trade, science, culture, and technology, and, possibily, a treaty on the protection of intellectual property, are expected to be signed.

The climax of the U.S. President's visit will be his one-hour conversation with the presidents of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. A meeting between the distinguished American visitor and representatives of the Latvian public is planned. At the end of the visit he will deliver an address to the peoples of the three Baltic states at a mass rally by the Liberty monument in the center of Riga. Around 50,000 people are expected to take part.

And Alfred Rubiks, former leader of the Latvian Communist Party, who has been in jail for almost three years, is welcoming Bill Clinton with an open letter.

In 1988, as chairman of the Riga City Executive Committee, Rubiks visited Little Rock in the State of Arkansas, the current U.S. President's home town, and was elected an honorary citizen of that city. Today Rubiks, who is an elected deputy of the Latvian Saeima, is charged with the attempted overthrow by force of the lawful power in Latvia in January through August 1991. His case has been examined in the Latvian Supreme Council for more than a year already.

In his letter to the U.S. President Rubiks welcomes Clinton's arrival in Latvia on behalf of his voters, and sends him "most sincere wishes for success on the path of establishing peace and justice."

In particular Rubiks writes: "It is with sorrow and regret that I must write today of human rights violations in Latvia, the persecution of dissidents, the subordination of the judiciary, and other violations of the underlying principles of democracy and the rule-of-law state recognized throughout the world."

Agreements on Russian Army Withdrawal Sent to Parliament

WS0607103794 Tallinn BNS in English 0905 GMT 6 Jul 94

[Text] Riga, 6 July, BNS—On Tuesday the Latvian Cabinet sent the package of agreements between Latvia and Russia on the Russian Army withdrawal from the territory of Latvia to the Saeima (parliament) for ratification.

"The ratification is of political importance because from the legal and the diplomatic point of view these agreements have already come into effect," Latvian Foreign Ministry's Deputy State Secretary in Western Affairs Einars Semanis said at a press conference. The withdrawal of the Russian troops continues, and it must be finished by 31 August, independently from the ratification of the agreements, noted Semanis. The issue will also be discussed during U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit to Latvia.

Semanis considers that Latvia will be interested in ratification of the agreements on the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Latvia, because Latvia needs the agreements to remain in force in case Russia's political course changes.

Lithuania

Brazauskas Receives Australian Foreign Minister

LD0507131294 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1100 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Lithuania's President Algirdas Brazauskas today received Australia's Foreign Minister Gareth Evans.

This is the first official visit by a Australian high-ranking official to Lithuania. We would like to demonstrate our attention and friendliness toward Lithuania. The struggle for independence and the first steps of the newly restored state were closely followed by the official Australian authorities and the public of the country, the minister said during his talks with the president.

Australia supports Lithuania's aspiration to integrate into the political and economic structures of the West, and expressed congratulates on joining the European Council, he stressed.

You must not regard Australia as a distant country, Gareth Evans said. Our businessmen are prepared to establish mutually beneficial contacts, and we think that the sphere of light industry could be especially promising. I believe that Lithuanians are also interested in this, the minister said.

Algirdas Brazauskas told the visitor about the political and economic situation in Lithuania, and acquainted him with the priorities in Lithuania's foreign policy.

Leaves for Riga Talks, Clinton Meeting

LD0507143194 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] President Algirdas Brazauskas left for Riga this afternoon. He is accompanied by an official delegation comprising Povilas Gylys, minister of foreign affairs; Justas Paleckis, ambassador at large and presidential adviser; Andrius Meskauskas, head of the President's Office; Alfonsas Eidintas, Lithuanian ambassador to the United States; Algirdas Zvyrenas, Lithuanian ambassador to Latvia; and Nerijus Maliukevicius, the president's press spokesman.

At 1900 today, the presidents of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia will meet in Jurmala to discuss the agenda for tomorrow's meeting with U.S. President Clinton.

Unemployment Rate Drops to 2.8 Percent in June

WS0607093794 Tallinn BNS in English 1902 GMT 5 Jul 94

[Text] Vilnius, 5 Jul, BNS—The rate of unemployment in Lithuania dropped by 0.2 in June running at 2.8 percent, the Lithuanian Labor Exchange said. According to official statistics, the number of registered people without a job exceeds 60,000, including nearly 26,000 officially unemployed. Like earlier, women and blue-collar workers make up a majority of people seeking a job.

In June, Lithuanian labor exchanges found jobs for 2,658 persons and offered around 3,600 job openings.